

THE JOURNAL

day, August 27, 2004

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Sports Longtime assistant will put in charge of Gaucho basketball [C1]

Arts The joy of live theater outdoors [C12]

Partners party to counter hate crime

By Nathaniel Hoffman

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Denis and Seph Paul wanted to broadcast a nonviolent response to bigotry, and more than 120 people came to help them do it. "The couple much preferred their Sunday afternoon healing ceremony-block party to the two brick that were hurled at their house at 100 Eureka Avenue and Liberty Street in the short time they've lived there." El Cerrito police went to the Pauls' house in time after the couple discovered a brick in their mailbox with a derogatory anti-gay message attached to it.

Police responded again last week when someone threw a red brick through the front window. "I can't recall the last time we had something like this where someone was targeted for their sexual preference or orientation," Sgt. Shawn Maples said.

At the urging of neighbors, the couple held a party Sunday afternoon to help them overcome the two incidents.

Seph Paul said he hopes the brick throwers saw or heard about their neighborhood party and realize that he and his partner are there to stay.

"Hopefully they'll change their mind and stop it," he said.

The March incident is considered a hate crime

because of the note, but the Aug. 17 brick is not necessarily considered a hate crime, Maples said.

Police have no suspects or leads in either incident, although officers, with the help of a neighbor, located a stack of bricks in an alley a few blocks away that may have been the source of the most recent missile.

But the Pauls, who were married at San Francisco City Hall on Valentine's Day and dismayed at the most recent court ruling that effectively nullified their marriage, consider the bricks hate crimes.

See HATE, Page A10



JOSE CARLOS FAJARDO/STAFF

SEPH PAUL, left, and Denis Paul, right, threw a party in response to a crime in which someone threw a brick through their living room window.

Students head back to class

The school district's \$6.7 million in cuts translates to fewer choices, crowded classes returning El Cerrito High students

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Students hung out and clown around on the front steps of Cerrito High School. Long lines of people for lunch and exchanges. Students catching up with friends.

It must be the first day of school. At El Cerrito High on Tuesday, students said classes were added, there were fewer experienced teachers and the wait of their schedules changed stretched for hours.

Fourteen-year-old freshman Anna said she didn't know what to expect and was just grateful to attending the school. "It's really different." There's more people. I'm really excited about meeting new people," she said.

"It's got diversity, it's not too much of one color," said 15-year-old sophomore Steven Sams, wearing a "Shady Ltd." shirt and after popular rap star Eminem.

"Classes are boring, lunch is short," said 16-year-old junior Santino Vera, with a big smile on his face.

Fifteen-year-old sophomore Sarah Ward said the school was packed with students, particularly freshmen.

"There's just a lot more kids," said Hannah, waiting for a ride with her mother in the school's parking lot with friend and fellow sophomore Monica Miller.

"There's only three sophomores and one senior and the rest are freshmen," said Monica, after biology class. "That's like kids."

Students also complained that school was offering too few classes.

"A lot of seniors don't have the schedule or classes they need and they need them for UC requirements or high school requirements," said senior Candice Moncrease, waiting in line to get her schedule changed.

Moncrease also complained

See CLASS, Page A12



JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

THE FIRST DAY of school was cold and foggy at Madera Elementary School in El Cerrito, and for kindergarten students Caleb Berg, 5, foreground, and Rebecca Brown, 5, their parents, respectively, Sarah Alexander and Eric Brown offer the comfort of their shoulders during kindergarten orientation, Tuesday, Aug. 24.

Parcel tax allows school workers' return

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

Nine elementary school principals, two truancy officers and two warehouse workers were reinstated by the West Contra Costa School District Board during a 90-minute meeting held Tuesday.

The restorations were the result of an additional \$1.3 million accrued from the passage of the Measure B parcel tax. The total

money from the parcel tax amounted to \$9.3 million and not \$8 million as previously thought, said Vince Kilmartin, the district's associate superintendent of operations.

As a result, the district was able to nix a controversial plan to have some elementary schools overseen by a part-time principal.

Five elementary school music teachers were also reinstated

thanks to \$368,000 in private donations made to the district.

"We'll have a minimal music program," Kilmartin said. "The entire elementary music program had (originally) been cut."

The board voted 4-1 to approve the restorations. Board member George Harris III dissented, saying he wanted more money to go to high and middle school safety officers.

Zoning may keep city from new heights

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — A proposal to bring a third massive housing and commercial development to San Pablo Avenue may be affected by height-limit reductions the City Council will consider at its Monday night meeting.

On Tuesday night, the planning and zoning commission will look at a development that will encompass 20 condominiums, 6,600 square feet of retail and commercial space and 6,015 square feet of office space.

The commission is expected to delay approval of that development, which will sit on a property now occupied by the former Ellis Olson Mortuary. The property is just south of Portland Gardens, a three-story mixed-use development across the street from Sizzler Restaurant.

The mortuary-site development will likely act as a guinea pig for lowered height limitations and other San Pablo Avenue zoning changes the council will consider Monday night, said Albany planning manager Dave Dowswell.

Dowswell said it's possible the new zoning changes could affect whether the city can approve the building as proposed.

The building is about 6 feet

See LIMITS, Page A10

Cell tower plan generates chatter

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — The talk within the Albany School District this summer has been less about the upcoming school year and more about increasing communication — through cell phones.

A spirited debate has unfolded on the high school e-mail list about an effort by AT&T Wireless to build a 50-foot tall cell phone antenna on top of Albany High School.

Some residents are vehemently against the proposal, citing health risks, while others say cell phones themselves are more dangerous than the antenna.

The Albany School District Board heard some testimony on the proposal at its Aug. 10 meeting but put off its approval at least until its next scheduled meeting, Sept. 14.

School District Superinten-

dent Willie Wong said evidence shows there are no health problems associated with the antenna, and that the installation would provide \$26,000 a year for the district.

"If it's not on the school grounds, it'll be on a telephone poll right next to the school," Wong said. "It's going to be there somewhere. If it's going to be there, it's really a question of what kind of effect that it has on people. And there's nothing that shows it has any negative effect."

Residents say there have been studies showing negative effects, but one has to go out of the country, to Canada or Switzerland, for example, to find them.

At the very least, they say, studies have been inconclusive.

"They've concluded that nobody knows," said resident Janet

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Community Folk

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At the Library

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Martin Snapp

■ Two sisters buy school supplies for St. Joseph the Worker school. Page A3

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NEWS BRIEFS

Albany

Campus Cruisers needs volunteers

Volunteers are being sought for "Campus Cruisers," a program for parents to monitor the middle and high school halls and grounds. An orientation for the program will be held Tuesday, Aug. 31 from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Albany High School Library, 603 Key Route Blvd.

The Campus Cruiser program is intended to encourage good behavior and provide support to the school staff. Volunteers would not confront students directly about problems but communicate to the front office so that school staff could handle them. Volunteers will generally work in pairs. They might be in the building, keeping the stairways moving, outside the buildings, and on the campus grounds. Shifts will be scheduled as short as one hour per week.

For more information, call Kathy Henley at 510-525-3506.

DJ Billy Steel will be at Club Mallard

DJ Billy Steel from radio station "The Bone," 107.7 FM will broadcast live from Club Mallard, 752 San Pablo Ave. from 6 p.m. to midnight today. The event, sponsored by The Bone and the Albany Chamber of Commerce, will include live music, prizes and benefits the Albany Athletic Boosters. For details call 510-525-1771.

Plan for city parks, trails on agenda

A plan that addresses the city's needs for new and improved parks, playing fields, trails and more will be reviewed by the parks and recreation commission on Thursday, Sept. 2, at 7 p.m. at the Albany City Council Chambers, 1000 San Pablo Ave.

The draft master plan for parks, recreation and open space also looks at questions of park management and maintenance and offers recommendations for better use of resources.

That includes the transfer of the Veterans' Memorial Building from county to city ownership, an overhaul of Ocean View Park sports facilities, and the acquisition and development of a new neighborhood park for the Albany Hill area.

The plan will eventually be sent to the City Council for final approval following the park and recreation meeting.

A draft of the master plan will be available to view at the Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany City Hall, 1000 San Pablo Avenue and on the city Web site, www.albanyca.org as of Sept. 1.

For more information, call Barbie Garey at 510-559-7222.

Sept. 15 deadline for comment on project

Residents have until Sept. 15 to comment on a negative declaration Berkeley and Albany intend to file for a Marin Avenue traffic project. The project would decrease the number of traffic lanes from four to three and install bike lanes on Marin Avenue from San Pablo Avenue to The Alameda.

The project calls for a one-year trial project to allow for the monitoring of the reconfiguration of Marin Avenue in both Albany and Berkeley. Albany officials would then determine whether it's feasible to implement the second phase, which consists of more permanent infrastructure. A negative declaration states the project would have no unmitigable effects on the surrounding area. Both city councils will have to approve the declaration before the project can move forward.

Copies of the negative declaration for public review are available at the community development department at Albany City Hall, 1000 San Pablo Avenue, the Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., the Berkeley Office of Transportation, 1947 Center St., third Floor and the Berkeley Central Library, 2090 Kittredge St.

There will be meetings about the project on Sept. 23 with the Albany Traffic Commission and Oct. 21 with the Berkeley Transportation Commission. Public hearings with the City Councils of both cities will be scheduled for the fall.

For details call the Albany planning department at 510-528-5760 or Berkeley transportation planner Heath Maddox at 510-981-7062.

East Bay**Deadline to register to vote is Oct. 18**

The deadline for registering to vote in the Nov. 2 election will be Oct. 18, the League of Women Voters of Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville reminds prospective voters. This includes those who are not yet 18 years old, but who will be 18 by Nov. 2.

The Voter Registration Form may be used to register to vote in any county in California.

There is more information regarding voter registration at the Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville League of Women Voters Web site at www.lwvbae.org. This Web site will provide access to voter information in Alameda County and the rest of California. There is also an on-line registration form at this site that you may complete.

The pros and cons on state ballot measures will be available for distribution to organizations later in this election season.

El Cerrito**CPR classes offered at Fire Station 71**

The El Cerrito Fire Department is offering adult, child and infant CPR and first aid classes this fall at Fire Station 71, 10900 San Pablo Ave. Space is limited to 15 students per class and priority registration will go to El Cerrito and Kensington residents. The cost is \$20 for CPR and \$40 for CPR/first aid.

CPR classes will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, Oct. 30 and Nov. 6. A first aid/CPR class will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13. For more information, call 510-215-4450.

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ALBANY POLICE REPORTS**Thursday, Aug. 12**

■ **FORGERY** — At about 4 p.m. the teller at a bank on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that a woman was attempting to cash a stolen check in the amount of \$3780. Officers responded and arrested the 30-year-old Berkeley woman for burglary, possession of stolen property, and forgery as well as an outstanding San Francisco traffic warrant in the amount of \$309. She was cited and transported to Santa Rita Jail.

Friday, Aug. 13

■ **VANDALS** — Shortly before 4 a.m. a resident on the 600 block of Spokane Avenue reported that vandals threw a rock through his front window.

■ **VANDALS** — A resident on the 1200 block of Portland Avenue reported that during the night vandals threw an object through her window.

Saturday, Aug. 14

■ **DUI** — At about 1:30 a.m. officers arrested a 34-year-old Emeryville man near San Pablo Avenue and Gilman Street for DUI. He was cited and released.

■ **DUI** — At about 3:30 a.m. officers arrested a 34-year-old Albany man for DUI on the 800 block of Evelyn Avenue. He was cited and released.

■ **HONDA STOLEN** — A resident on the 700 block of Masonic Avenue reported that he had recently purchased a red 1994 Honda and during the night thieves stole it.

■ **SATURN STOLEN** — San Francisco Police reported locating a blue 1995 Saturn that had been stolen from Albany. It was not damaged and the owner was notified. The vehicle was towed.

Sunday, Aug. 15

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — Officers responded to a liquor store on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue on reports of a subject drinking and causing a disturbance. Officers arrested the 19-year-old Richmond man for disorderly conduct. He was cited and released.

■ **CASH STOLEN** — A business on the 1400 block of Solano Avenue reported that two girls, approximately 16 years old, stole credit cards and cash from a file cabinet. They were gone when officers arrived.

■ **DUI** — At about 9:30 p.m. officers stopped a 19-year-old San Francisco man on the 1100 block of Eastshore

EL CERRITO POLICE REPORTS**Sunday, Aug. 1**

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — A 1993 white Honda Accord taken from Fern Drive was later located at the Terrace Hotel.

Friday, Aug. 13

■ **VEHICLE RANSACKED** — A vehicle on the 6500 block of Cutting Boulevard was ransacked sometime between 9 p.m. on Aug. 13 and 9 a.m. the next day. There was no loss.

■ **VEHICLE RANSACKED** — A car was ransacked inside a garage on the 5700 block of Jordan Avenue at 7 a.m.

Sunday, Aug. 15

■ **SHOPLIFTING** — A 40-year-old man was arrested at 5:28 p.m. on suspicion of shoplifting at Pastime Hardware. The man used a brown paper bag to conceal tools and then attempted to leave the store, police said. The manager said the suspect had stolen from the store twice before.

■ **BUSINESS BURGLARY** — A cash register with \$100 inside was stolen from a taqueria on the 10500 block of San Pablo Avenue at around 5:25 a.m. Portions of the register were recovered in the parking lot of the restaurant and in the 900 block of

■ **TUESDAYS: 2 pm - 7 pm**
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THURSDAYS: 3 pm - 7 pm
Shattuck Ave. & Rose St.

SATURDAYS: 10 am - 3 pm
Center St. & MLK, Jr. Way

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Sisters erase need with loads of school supplies

MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

YOU'VE PROBABLY heard about the budget cuts in the public schools over just few years. What you may not have heard is that the schools have been hit hard.

Last spring, several Catholic schools in the Oakland diocese which covers Alameda and Contra Costa counties — were down to save money, creating an even greater burden for the remaining schools, which have to absorb their students.

It's a serious challenge, even for relatively affluent parishes, which are already stretched to the limit; it's an emergency.

One of these is St. Joseph's Worker in downtown Oakland. Not all of its students are Catholic. About 30 percent neighborhood kids — mostly Baptist — whose parents go to St. Joseph's because they like the academics and discipline.

A few weeks ago, Nancy Allen of Martinez heard about the cutbacks and thought, "I've got to do something." She picked up the phone and called her sister Monica in Rockridge. Monica was thinking the same thing. That's a coincidence. Ever since they were little girls, their mothers had taught them, "If you can talk about loving your neighbor until you're blue in the face," says Monica. "But you don't actually do something, it's just talk."

They called Principal Nancy Alwachuk at St. Joseph's, whom they had never met, and asked, "What do you need?" What she needed was school supplies — enough for 150 students.

"We had parents come to us in tears because they couldn't afford the supplies," she said. "But even more heartbreaking were the kids who tried to hide the fact from us because they were embarrassed. Every fall, we'd wait for the first homework assignments to come back so we could figure out which kids were doing the assignment because they didn't have the time at home to do it."

Neither Nancy nor Monica had a lot of money, but they had their own pockets as much as they could. The rest came from friends, including some of a van from Robert

Hunsinger of Enterprise Rent-A-Car in Concord and a \$2,500 check from Alan Bascacci, owner of AB&I Foundry in Oakland.

For the past two weeks, Nancy's house had stacks of packing crates up to the ceiling. Her sons, Josu and Brendan, had to pick their way between the stacks to get from room to room. Last week, Josu had to move into Brendan's room to make space for even more boxes.

Last weekend, the boys and their friends — Michael Olvera, Kevin Sullivan and Krystal Sullivan — helped Monica and Nancy make individual gift boxes for each student at St. Joseph's. On Monday morning they loaded the boxes — all 210 — into the van and delivered them, just in time for the first day of school.

The contents varied according to age. The younger children got crayons, drawing paper, colored paper, glue sticks, scissors, baby wipes, paper towels and tissues.

The older kids got protractors, compasses, electronic calculators, notebooks, filler paper, graph paper, dividers, glue sticks, erasers, and a box of No. 2 pencils.

The Catholic church teaches that there are two different acts of charity: imperfect and perfect.

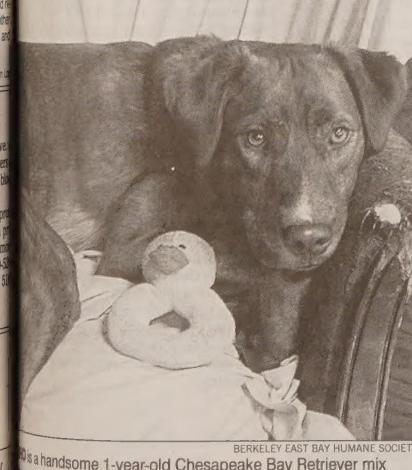
Imperfect is when you do it for a personal reason, like fear of hell. Perfect is when you do it for no other reason than you want to do the right thing. The feeling you get when you do the right thing is something that can't be matched by anything in the world.

As Nancy and Monica were distributing the boxes, one wide-eyed little boy asked them, "Are you rich?"

Not in the way he might think. But yes, they're very rich indeed.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2787 or e-mail: msnapp@cctimes.com.

OF THE WEEK



BERKELEY EAST BAY HUMANE SOCIETY
is a handsome 1-year-old Chesapeake Bay Retriever mix
and may be available for adoption at the Berkeley East Bay
Humane Society. Volunteers say he's very smart and already
knows sit, "down," "shake" and "high-five." Though Ciro enjoys
long walks and trips to the dog park, at heart he's just
a potato who can't wait to snuggle by your side.

BERKELEY — The following animals may be available for adoption at the Berkeley East Bay Humane Society.
Dogs: Female Labrador retriever mix, 11 months; female Queen Charles spaniel mix, 12 weeks; female Rottweiler, 3 years; male Labrador retriever border collie mix, 10 months; border collie mix, 2-3 years; male Chihuahua, 11 months; female pit bull terrier/husky mix, 2 years; male lab mix, 2 years; female collie, 2-3 years; German shepherd mix, 2-3 years.

Cats: Female black and white, 7 years; female gray, 6 years; several male black and white, 1-2 years; female brown tabby, 14 years; male black and white, 5 years; female calico, 3 years.

Adoption fee: cats \$100; dogs \$125 — including spaying, neutering and age-appropriate shots. There is an overnight hold period.

The Berkeley East Bay Humane Society is located at 2700 Ninth Street, Berkeley. Its hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Information: www.berkeleyhumane.org or call 510-845-

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Neighbors

Writers class thrives at senior center

By Mary Reiley
STAFF WRITER

Creative writing is not for the faint-hearted, especially when it is practiced in a writers group.

I visited the Open House Senior Center in El Cerrito on Friday and was struck by the courage of participants sharing their own work in a writers workshop, and the generosity of those offering critiques or suggestions.

The 12 participants started the session by taking turns reading a short piece they had written in the last 15 minutes of the previous gathering. Each week, a piece of artwork or other object is presented and the task is to quickly write prose or poetry about it, and share the result at the next meeting.

After Friday's "round robin," the writers shared other things they have written.

David Rasmussen of El Cerrito brought copies of a play he wrote involving inner dialogue, and invited two others to take a role.

Listeners were left puzzled by Jean Bradman's "imaginative" piece, as Gene Sharee of Berkeley called it. Listeners wanted more information to help them understand it, asking for a title as a point of reference.

"The beauty of a group is that you can write something in the dark and bring it here and people start firing ideas (about it)," facilitator Stanley Whitehead said.

Sharee acknowledged the importance of working with the others. "We need feedback," he said.

Most of the writers bring their work to the table looking for that feedback, but others want something else.

"Some don't want criticism," Whitehead told me. "They just want to hear what (their work) sounds like out loud."

Whitehead has been facilitating the El Cerrito group for five years. It meets from 9 to 11 a.m. Fridays at the center, 6500 Stockton Ave.

Besides functioning as a writers group, the weekly sessions, Whitehead told me in an earlier phone interview, teach participants how a writers group functions, so they can join or start others. It seems to work well.

Margaret Irvin of El Sobrante, who has been coming to the workshops for a couple of years, called the sessions therapeutic. Whitehead keeps sessions lively, she said, and encourages participants to make their comments about a work specific.

"He wants to get the work off the page so it sparkles and lives," Irvin said.

She belongs to or leads other groups and plans to teach a class in the fall.

Robert Maynard of Oakland said he looks forward to the Friday sessions, whether or not he has something to share.

"I can come and not feel I must have something to present every week," he said. "I've been to groups I've had to pay for that weren't as good as this."

The group gives him an incentive to keep writing, he said.

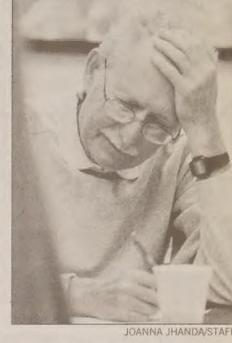
Group members plan a reading at 10 a.m. Saturday at Barnes & Noble, 6060 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito.

Rasmussen and the others are hoping a founding member of the group, 95-year-old Jeanette Sarno, will attend and share some of her work. "She's a prolific writer," Whitehead said.

Two of her pieces are in "Poetry & Prose from the Writer's Group, 2004," a booklet available at the senior center.

Organized by Whitehead, the collection includes works by most of the group members.

"These are quite good writers," Whitehead said. "They come to



JOANNA JHANDBY/STAFF

ROBERT MAYNARD of Oakland searches for just the right words during a writers workshop exercise at the Open House Senior Center in El Cerrito on Aug. 20.

to be extraordinary works."

"I love what they do," said senior center director Ellen Paesch.

"It's nice to be heard," Irvin told me after Friday's workshop. "Seniors need that."

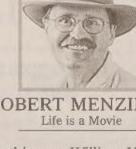
"People get more interesting as they get older."

For details on the workshops, call the Open House Senior Center at 510-215-4340.

Bottom line: Everyone's an idiot in this village

WE LEFT ALBANY for vacation before we could see "The Village," the new movie from M. Night Shyamalan. On our trip, there wasn't much to read in the languages we pretend to speak at our house, French, Spanish, and sometimes English, so by the time we were walking up and down Solano Avenue again, we had no idea what anyone thought of "The Village." Allison Parker, and I decided to check it out.

Between the village we live in and the one in the movie, I like ours better. Way better. I feel like I'm careening down the old curlicue slide at Memorial Park with this director — exhilarated at the top when he made "The Sixth Sense," still having fun on the trip down with "Unbreakable," slowing a bit as the ground approaches with "Signs," and then landing in a disappointed heap with "The Village." I live in fear that next he'll try a remake of "The English Patient," and watching that would be like plopping into the Memorial Park sand after one of the neighborhood cats had just used it for the reason cats think sand was invented.

ROBERT MENZIMER
Life is a Movie

In this one, William Hurt, Sigourney Weaver, Joaquin Phoenix, Adrien Brody, and Bryce Howard (Ron's daughter, and I hope there are happier days ahead for her after this movie), play isolated, late 19th century villagers who have fled the evils of civilization. Maybe they heard that Carl's Jr. ads and drivers talking on cell phones were coming. Or maybe they heard in advance about this film. Anyway, they've built this village surrounded by woods. And in the woods live these creatures. William Hurt, as a village elder and schoolteacher, tells the kids what the deal is with the monsters. "Children," he intones, sounding like having to recite this dialogue gives him a headache, "We do not go into their woods, they do not come into our valley. It is a truce." Or maybe the monsters just don't

want to be subjected to this screenplay. The cardboard dialogue is part of the plot, and I won't say any more than that, but still, it made me want to bolt for a Spike Lee movie.

And speaking of the monsters, oh please. Are they warthogs? Are they big porcupines? Who can tell? Or more to the point, who cares?

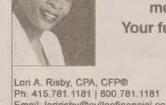
At one juncture, the blind villager played by young Ms. Howard makes a stumbling trek through the perilous woods. Hand-held camera, bare tree limbs revolving against a sunless sky ... OK, now we've got the "Blair Village Project." She has a long journey, and it felt like we were being dragged along with her in real time. It was like "My Dinner with Andre" on the Mist Trail at Yosemite. I was afraid that by the time she got where she was going, Mr. Shyamalan would be out with a holiday movie.

After the movie, Parker's friend William came over and I heard one greet the other with, "Dude! Sup?" It was the perfect perk-me-up after the droning, stilted dialogue of "The Village." Only two words. Spoken by a real person. In a real village.

There are some good things here, including a superb cast, albeit bereft of much that's interesting to say. Bryce Howard is a revelation, movie genes galore. One scene involving a knife is joltingly effective, the director at his best. But his trademark plot twists are starting to work against him — you spend the whole movie waiting for the big surprise at the end, especially with this film, since there's little else to keep you awake until you get there.

Reach Albany writer Robert Menzimer at lifeisamovie@pacbell.net.

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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIAL

Not all important elections are national

A TESTY TIME is just around the corner, when national and local candidates will turn up the heat in their competition to get your vote.

And it won't be only the politicians and campaign managers who will try to make up your mind for you; there will also be friends, co-workers and letter-writers making cases for their parties and their people of choice.

Considering the volatile feelings about the war in Iraq, the economy, terrorism and even arguments over what constitutes patriotism, there will be no lack of candid messages being sent out to the media by voters on the national elections.

That's good. The media should report what people think about the state of their country.

However —

While the Journal won't refuse to print letters on the national election, the first priority will remain our cities' issues and elections.

Community newspapers fulfill a unique role, not only in reporting a town's hard and soft news but in providing space for readers to have their say about what's going on in their communities.

Metro newspapers are meant to cover the national issues. Community newspapers are meant to focus on local issues.

So, as the campaign season gains momentum, the Journal will, as usual, focus first on letters about Albany, El Cerrito and Kensington's issues and candidates. National news is available on television, and in other newspapers, on the radio and the Internet.

When space on the editorial page allows, we will print letters about national and state issues. We understand that residents here are thinking about the rest of the world, too. And given the generally high level of education and literacy among our populace, those opinions are typically well thought out and articulately expressed.

But before writing about Bush or Kerry or state initiatives or county representatives, before taking another jab at "The Governor," consider what is happening in our own back yard.

In El Cerrito, four candidates are running for three open seats. Those who are chosen will help shape the future of El Cerrito as a number of critical issues, from redevelopment around Del Norte BART and consideration of a proposal for a parking garage at the Plaza station to the controversial Cerrito Theater project come before the council.

Also controversial is the utility users tax, the continuation of which El Cerrito voters will decide on Nov. 2.

Tax measures also are going to Albany's voters, as homeowners are asked to tax themselves to raise millions to upgrade schools, and whether to increase taxes on large commercial and industrial property owners to help pay for emergency medical services.

Albany's council race has attracted six candidates for three open seats. Development on the Albany waterfront and rezoning areas near San Pablo Avenue — issues that may significantly change these areas of town over the next few years — will be at the forefront of issues facing the council.

Three candidates are running for two open seats on the Albany school board. And in the West County school district, six challengers and an incumbent are vying for two seats on the board.

We've got plenty to deal with and to discuss right here at home. And however much we appreciate letter writers' views on all subjects, those that deal with local issues will have priority.

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

State Senate

Don Perata: (D-9th District; Albany, Berkeley) State Capitol, Room 4061, Sacramento, CA 95814; 916-445-6577. Fax: 916-327-1997; 1515 Clay St., No. 2202, Oakland, CA 94612; 510-286-1333. E-mail: senator.perata@sen.ca.gov.

Tom Torlakson: (D-7th District; El Cerrito, Kensington) 2801 Concord Blvd., Concord CA 94519; 800-859-9900 or State Capitol, Room 2068, Sacramento CA 95814; 916-445-6083. E-mail: senator.torlakson@sen.ca.gov

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District; Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249; 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710; 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530; 510-559-1406. Fax: 510-559-1478

County Supervisors

John Gioia: (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530; 510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-3429. E-mail: dist1@bos.co.contra-costaca.us.

Keith Carson: (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612; 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: kcarson@co.alameda.ca.us.

EBMUD

David Richardson: Ward No. 4 (Al-

bany, Berkeley, and Emeryville; part of Oakland; El Cerrito and Kensington. E-mail: Oakport@igc.org

East Bay Regional Parks

Jean Siri: Ward 1 (Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Kensington, part of Pinole, and San Pablo). E-mail: jsiri@ebparks.org

AC Transit

Joe Wallace: Ward 1 (West Contra Costa and Northern Alameda counties). E-mail: jwallace@actransit.org; phone 510-891-7143; fax 510-234-7689.

Steges Sanitary District

Phone 510-524-4668 or see online at www.stegesdst.ca.us.

Cities

El Cerrito: City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District 217 Arlington Blvd., 510-527-8395

Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd., 510-526-4141

School boards

West Contra Costa Unified School District: 510-620-2246

Albany Unified School District: 510-558-3766

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

SCHOOLWORK BRINGS OUT CREATIVITY

IT'S A NOTE
FROM MY MOM.

IT SAYS YOU'RE
ALLERGIC TO
HOMEWORK?



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Open space fund vote snafus

No discussion of the open space fund vote in Contra Costa County would be complete without speaking to the ineptitude and inefficiency of the folks who handled the election.

As a registered county voter, I had to track them down when I failed to receive a ballot. First the number listed to call had a full mailbox, then the Registrar of Voters referred me to the Open Space Fund, which stated they needed my parcel number to send me a ballot. After some talking, they agreed to look up my parcel number themselves, since this is not something I usually have at my work.

When I failed to receive it within two weeks, and called again, they said it was on its way, since they had to look up my parcel number. I finally received it, only to find out that we needed to submit only one ballot per household.

I finally mailed it the week before and have no way of knowing if my vote in favor of the fund made it.

This process took six phone calls over a three-week period. I am unusually persevering and wonder how many other people this might have happened to who lacked the wherewithal to do the same. One is left to wonder if it altered the outcome.

Next time do a better job of explaining the process and handling the election. I have a feeling it would result in a win, rather than a close loss.

Laura Brainin-Rodriguez
El Cerrito

We have a right to know

I recently read an article about John Kerry's response to an advertisement by MoveOn PAC that attacked President Bush's National Guard service.

I commend candidate John Kerry for taking the high ground and asking MoveOn to pull the ad. I very much appreciate Kerry's stance that this campaign is about "issues not insults."

Nevertheless, I do think one of the issues that has not yet been fully addressed is the nature of Bush's military service.

On "Meet the Press," Bush promised to release all of his military records, but he is now refusing to do so. In fact, the Associated Press has had to file a lawsuit against the Pentagon in an attempt to get access to these records.

I may not agree with the use of his negative political ads, but I agree with Eli Pariser of MoveOn when he says, "We believe the nation has a right to know whether George Bush showed up for service or not."

As American citizens who are trying to decide who we want as our next president and next commander in chief, we do have a right to know the truth, be it good or bad, about Bush's National Guard service.

I hope journalists and citizens alike will join together to insist we get access to these records. If President Bush has nothing to hide, he should enthusiastically release the records so this issue can be put to rest.

Selene Fabiano
El Cerrito

El Cerritans, wake up!

Your article about El Cerrito Councilman Mark Friedman (Journal, Aug. 13) didn't cover motivation.

Why would a politician inclined toward compromise lend himself to a vi-

cious, lying hit piece against Councilwoman Kathie Perka?

Answer: Friedman came from the big-stakes political world of state Sen. Don Perata. El Cerrito masquerades as "progressive" but mainly caters to construction and related special interests. The easiest sources of campaign money are developers pursuing massive projects. Questionable and even failed projects fund election campaigns and make work for city staff.

Perka asked questions about cost-effectiveness and stood in the way of these interests. She could have thwarted the eminent domain vote for controversial redevelopment and BART projects. Hence the hit piece campaign against her.

Even scarier is that Friedman so dirtied local politics that potential council challengers who could stand up to our town's dominant political machine won't compete. Why swim in this polluted pool?

Don't expect a single voice of common sense in the new El Cerrito Council when dealing with dumb, grandiose projects.

They don't mind if auto traffic is totally bottled up, hoping it will eventually generate hundreds of millions of dollars for some form of rail solution. Consultants are paid for phony impact projections, leading to established neighborhoods being gradually replaced by "transit oriented housing." All it takes is political clout, and passive taxpaying residents.

A couple of weeks ago, the council approved bonding for another \$17 million for redevelopment. More money, more political favors. El Cerritans, wake up, you're being had!

Peter Loubal
El Cerrito

Court partly wrong

We see no ethical justification for denying the name or the privileges of marriage to same-sex couples. To claim that such unions are in some way threatening to heterosexual marriage reminds us of that cartoon in which a woman says to her friend at lunch, "Gay couples don't threaten my marriage. It's the heterosexual women who sleep with my husband."

Regrettably, it is probably legally true that Mayor Gavin Newsom exceeded the limits of his authority. Such is often the case when injustices are common policy and are opposed by persons of conscience.

The larger question, the underlying issue of human rights, will be decided in time by the verdict of higher courts and of history.

The court choosing to invalidate the previously issued marriage licenses is both wrong and useless. It's wrong because the decision should have been deferred until the larger issue had been settled — legally if not ethically.

The decision was useless because the honor and sanction conferred in the marriage ceremony reside not in the law books, but in the hearts of those attending the ceremony.

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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Don A. Weingarten
Linda F. Weingarten

Health is paramount

Regarding Tiburon's radio-ammunity battle, after the 1991 Gulf War, a returning soldier got ALS. He was ridiculed for saying he got ALS from serving in the Gulf War. He was told it was random luck.

Wasting away, in a televised interview, the anguished soldier pleaded, "One day you will find out military service in the war caused perfectly healthy soldiers to get ALS. Don't let 'authorities' tell 'science proves' no link with ALS." A decade later, the military and government announced long-term, scientific health studies proving a correlation between serving in the Gulf War and contracting ALS.

Service triggers more than a 100% increase in the risk of contracting ALS, compared to "random chance." ALS was once a rare disease, but now it's a major target of ridicule. Arguments used in the 1990s, shaming those serving, was linked with ALS, are now irrelevant.

Using ridicule and shame toward supporting minority positions, softer social mechanisms. It helps to maintain momentum moving forward with ideas that appear to be promising for greater public good.

We need more long-term studies to know the true effects of transmitting diseases placed in populated areas. Nothing is more precious than having one's health.

Valerie Chon
Alameda

Don't be fooled

As a physician who lives in Contra Costa County and who works in Alameda County, I fought for two ballot measures in 2004 to preserve crucial hospital services in both counties.

Measure A has kept Alameda County Medical Center solvent and Measure B has provided funding for Doctors Hospital San Pablo after the Tenet pullout.

Both of these were tax measures that were put into law by an overwhelming majority of citizens voting in their best interests.

Let us not be fooled by the lure of tax cuts being upheld by the current administration, and sure to key Republican campaign strategies.

Although the feds are closing the health-care system, when it comes to health-care services, we have a backbone, too, and have paid the tax bill at this end.

Be sure to think about your local emergency room and trauma services this summer, as you plan your vacation. They come the fall.

Vote for sane and centralized health care for urgent health care needs everywhere. Vote for John Kerry.

Dr. Sheila Freedman
Richmond

Pooled resources benefit library users



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

Quote of the week:
"The Peninsula Library System strengthens local libraries through cooperation, enabling them to provide better service to their diverse communities."
— Mission statement,
Peninsula Library System,
adopted Feb. 7, 1989

A FEW WEEKS AGO, a woman described her experience of returning a library video to the wrong library system. When she figured out what had gone wrong, she talked to the staff at both libraries and was told that, eventually, the video would probably show up at the right place. If not, there would be a charge for replacing it. What she wanted to know was: Is there a system for me? Is there a system for that? And how does it work?

The answer is that, yes, there is a system — of sorts, depending where the book started and where it ends up.

If the two libraries are part of BALIS (Bay Area Library Information Services), it is very simple: The book is sent and sent on to the home library. Whether or not fines will be accruing while it's making its way depends on the library system and possibly even the person sending it on.

If it's a school book, it will be returned, although how it gets there depends on the library and the school system. In many, a parent picks them up on the way through and delivers them to the school.

Why does this happen? Co-

operation is a good idea for libraries, for all sorts of reasons.

part of BALIS

The Peninsula Library System is an even larger organization, made up of 34 public and community college libraries. In addition to these member libraries, they also work with BALIS and other cooperative library systems.

Their strategic plan focuses on their "commitment to coordinating as many library services as possible, thereby allowing local libraries to focus scarce resources on unique local services" (Peninsula Library System, strategic plan 2004-2007, draft).

These systems can also work together on legislation and public awareness, a great benefit in areas like the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

Another advantage of cooperation among libraries is that

bringing together different types of libraries means representatives of these systems will have an opportunity to find out more about each other's challenges and daily workings.

LINK+ is another good example of library cooperation. This group of California public and academic libraries provides a wonderful resource that has greatly expanded the offerings of the member libraries.

The Alameda County Library was the first public library to join this system and, as a librarian in that system, I can say it has been a incredible asset.

LINK+ is easy to use: When library users can't find a particular book in their own library system, they can then search the LINK+ database. If the item is available, a request can be made, and the material is delivered to the local branch within a few days. This service is free, although the fines and replacement costs can be high, and fast.

One of the greatest advantages to LINK+ is the combination of academic and public libraries.

College students and faculty have access to popular reading materials and public library users have access to academic ones.

This system, like all of the cooperative library programs, benefits everyone — the library user, most of all.

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at jwinkelstein@aclibr.org or at the Albany Library.



ED HIRSCH teaches student Doris Todd a few moves in an Albany Senior Center chess class on Friday, Aug. 20. Hirsch, who teaches mostly on Wednesday mornings, likes to show students a few different moves in either the opening, middle or end game of chess.

GREGORY URQUJAGA/STAFF

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

The Contra Costa County Library's "Stories to Go" program is seeking volunteers to help in its mission to foster a love of books and reading through weekly story times in preschool classes. The library will train and support volunteers and provide them with materials.

For details on training classes, contact Lyn Palme at lpalme@ccclib.org or 925-927-3288.

The Albany Library offers free, drop-in chess workshops every Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. for players of all levels. The sessions are led by Stephen Shaughnessy, veteran teacher from the Berkeley Chess School.

The Albany Library, a branch

of the Alameda County Library, is located at 1247 Marin Ave. Information: 510-526-3720 ext. 20.

The Pop-Up Players present stories, songs and more when J. Roger's Pirate School is in session at the El Cerrito Library, Saturday, Sept. 18 at 11 a.m.

Readers Anonymous, the El Cerrito Library's book club, meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Copies of the current selection are available at the checkout desk. Next up: "The Human Stain" by Philip Roth (Sept. 28) and "Lying Awake" by Mark Salzman (Oct. 28).

The El Cerrito Library, a branch of the Contra Costa County Library, is located at 6510 Stockton

Ave. For details call 510-526-7512.

Come say "G'day" to Tony Bordes and his Australian puppets on Tuesday, Aug. 31 at 6:30 p.m. when they visit the Kensington Library to help celebrate the completion of the summer Reading Club. A drawing for the kangaroo puppet will follow the Friends of the Kensington Library-sponsored performance.

Family Storytimes for all ages are held on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. (except when special programs are scheduled) at the library.

The Kensington Library, a branch of the Contra Costa County Library, is at 61 Arlington Ave., Kensington, CA 94707-1098. Phone: 510-524-3043.

High School family. This is the PTSAs big fund-raiser push for the year. The mailing will include a Albertson's Preferred Saving notice, direct appeal, Pasta Pomodoro coupons and much more.

The party begins at 4 p.m. and continues until the job is done. Beverages and snacks are provided.

If you have any questions or suggestions, call Joann Steck-Bayat at 510-524-9464.

— Source: El Cerrito school e-mail trees

CERRITO SCHOOL NEWS

Harding Elementary

PICNIC TIME: A back-to-school community picnic is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 28 at the Harding Park Clubhouse from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., organized by Harding School parents.

The community is invited to a picnic get-together — food will be provided. It's a chance for Hardingers and neighbors of the school to meet each other, hear about plans for moving into the new

\$13 million school, and find out more about PTA-sponsored programs while the children participate in games and activities. Parents want to thank local merchants who contributed to the event, including FatApples, Safeway, Albertson's, All Star Donuts and others.

The school is located on Fairmount Avenue at Ashbury Avenue in El Cerrito. The main entrance is on "C" Street (between Ashbury Avenue and Behrens Street). For information, call Lisa

at 510-236-6046.

Portola middle school

PORTELA PTA: The Portola Music Parents and PTA will be holding their first meetings of the year on Tuesday, Aug. 31, in the Portola library. The Music Parents meeting will begin at 6:15 p.m., and the PTA meeting will follow at 7:15. For more information, please contact PTA President Terri Knight at 510-528-1290.

The school is establishing a

new e-mail tree. Portola parents who have not received an invitation by e-mail to join can. By now, you should have received an invitation from sue_mertens@yahoo.com to join the "portolapta" group through yahoo-groups.com. The e-mail tree should be up and running by Sept. 1.

El Cerrito High School

'06 CAR WASH: The Class of 2006 will have its second car wash on Sunday, Aug. 29, at the

R&R gas station at the corner of El Cerrito Plaza and across the street from the El Cerrito Plaza Bart Station. It runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Volunteers who would like to help wash cars should bring a bucket, rags, a squeegee and/or car soap. Cars are \$5, trucks, SUVs, etc. are \$8.

MAILING PARTY:

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If you have any questions or suggestions, call Joann Steck-Bayat at 510-524-9464.

— Source: El Cerrito school e-mail trees

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California and the Vietnam Era

AUGUST 28, 2004 – FEBRUARY 27, 2005

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What's Going On—California and the Vietnam Era is made possible with generous support from the Oakland Museum Women's Board; the National Endowment for the Humanities; The James Irvine Foundation; The Clorox Company Foundation; and The Rockefeller Foundation.

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Calendar

Children

Karate — Karate for ages 4 & up) - the non-aggressive sport for kids, and Kurukul (9-16) - a self-defense class just for girls accepting enrollment for the Fall. Classes taught by a Female Instructor who emphasizes a non-competitive, aggressive and fun learning environment. Call Dara's Studio in Albany for details. Don't delay, sign up quickly!

Cooking demonstration — Vanni Patchara of Vanni restaurant will give an Asian cuisine cooking demonstration at 11 a.m., Sept. 4, as part of the World Food Festival at the Berkeley Farmer's Market. Market located at Center St. at Martin Luther King, Jr. Way in Berkeley and runs 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. Details: 510-548-3333, www.ecologycenter.org.

Koi Slipper: A Festival of Jewish Storytelling — With Jeni Izzy, Roslyn Bresnick-Perry, Steve Sanfield, Erica Lann Clark and Jane Golbert takes place Sunday, Oct. 10, from 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut St. Berkeley. Events include: a full day of performances - including a special children's performance, innovative workshops, story swapping, story hour, book fair, food and childcare. All day: \$25 public/\$18 co-sponsors; families: \$70 public/\$56 co-sponsors. Half day (after 1 p.m.): \$18 public/\$15 co-sponsors; families: \$40 public/\$30 co-sponsors. Children's performance only \$6 per person. Childcare: \$3 an hour (must be reserved by Oct. 1). 510-848-0237x 110 or www.bjcc.org. Tickets go on sale Sept. 8.

Berkeley Jewish Community Center — Spend quality time with your children at the annual Jewish Roots and Roots Fair on Saturday, Sept. 4. The fair is on performing arts, basic music reading and writing as well as the performing arts. Contact Shanti Moorjani (the fair) for an audition appointment to sing on Wednesday, Sept. 1 and Sunday, Sept. 8. The number is 510-848-0237.

Check out books from the Berkeley Jewish Community Center — Spend quality time with your children at the annual Jewish Roots and Roots Fair on Saturday, Sept. 4. The fair is on performing arts, basic music reading and writing as well as the performing arts. Contact Shanti Moorjani (the fair) for an audition appointment to sing on Wednesday, Sept. 1 and Sunday, Sept. 8. The number is 510-848-0237.

Offer special programs — Classes from 22 months to 5 years designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. The program for ages 3½ years meets Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration continues as long as space is available. Located at 7007 Moeser Street. 510-548-3333; www.ecologycenter.org.

World Food Festival at the Saturday Market — Open mic sign-up 6:30 p.m., reading/performance 7 p.m. Admission free. Piano & 2 mics available. Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St., between Euclid and Rose streets. 510-527-9753.

All star basketball — The City of Berkeley Young Adult Project is holding its Annual All Star Weekend. Come support some of the best basketball players in Twilight Basketball. Events include 2-ball, 3-point contest, slam dunk, and all-star games. Games held at Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Services Center, 1730 Oregon Street, Aug. 27, 7-10 p.m. (ages 14-15), Aug. 28, 4-7 p.m. (ages 11-13), and Aug. 29, 4-7 p.m. (ages 16-18). Free. Details: 510-981-6678.

Saturday, Aug. 28, Rhythm & Muse returns with a Neruda Centennial Tribute Open Mic. Open mic sign-up 6:30 p.m., reading/performance 7 p.m. Admission free. Piano & 2 mics available. Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St., between Euclid and Rose streets. 510-527-9753.

American Rhododendron Society, Cal Chapter — Meets Thursday, Sept. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave. in Oakland near the entrance to Children's Fairyland. The society's yearly propagation program is featured this month. Bring rhodie or azalea cuttings to share. Newcomers welcome. Marilynn, 510-223-0443.

Take a Seat for Habitat Auction and Gala — Sept. 17. Auction featuring 15 custom-decorated children's chairs, designed by celebrities to benefit Habitat Children's Museum in Berkeley.

Celebrity designs from Lance Armstrong, Pixar Animation Studios with Ellen DeGeneres, Mayor Gavin Newsom, India.Arie and more. Wine, hors d'oeuvres, and dancing with entertainment by The Amazing DJs. Friday, Sept. 17, 7-11 p.m. at Casa de la Vista on Treasure Island. Tickets \$100 per person available in advance at 510-647-1111, ext. 16. Details: www.habitat.org.

Programs at the Albany Senior Center — 846 Masonic Ave.: Golf Program for Seniors, first Thursday in September, October, November, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., (510-912 to sign up) free. Smoking Cessation Group, Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon, seven meetings starting Aug. 27, sliding scale \$3-\$10 per week; Senior Issues Support Group, Thursdays 11 a.m.-noon, starts Sept. 9, \$15.

The 13th annual Alta Bates Summit Celebrity Golf and Tennis Classic — benefits the medical center's nationally recognized substance-abuse program,



New look at old classic

AURORA THEATRE kicks off its new season next week with a new adaptation of what the Berkeley company calls "The oldest surviving play in Western literature," the 2,500-year-old "The Persians." Pictured are Queen Tossa (Lura Dolas) and her son Xerxes (Craig Marker). "The Persians" opens in previews Sept. 3, and its main run is Sept. 9-Oct. 10 at the Aurora Theatre, 2081 Addison St., Berkeley. Tickets are \$28-\$40. Contact 510-843-4822 or www.auroratheatre.org.

Thunder Road. Jim Courier and John Lloyd headline the celebrity tennis event on Saturday, Sept. 18. Watch 30-plus sports and entertainment celebrities compete with sponsored tennis players on six courts at the Berkeley Tennis Club. Followed by a star-studded gala dinner at the Claremont Resort. Tickets to the celebrity tennis event cost \$25 and include a box lunch; children 10 and under are free. Tickets to the gala dinner are also available. For more info or tickets, visit www.absfdn.org, or call 510-204-1667. The Alta Bates Summit Celebrity Golf Tournament kicks off the week at the Diablo Country Club. Golfers will tee off on Monday, Sept. 12 for a day competing with local pros and celebrities. Tickets to the golf tournament cover a round of golf, lunch and a celebrity gala dinner.

The Arlington Community Church in Kensington would like to invite singers in the neighborhood to a Potluck Sing-through of their fall and Christmas music. Potluck starts at 6 p.m., singing starts at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 25 at the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., in Kensington. Call Leslie, the choir director at 843-7745 or the church 526-9146 for further information.

Prospect Sierra School, 960 Avis Drive in El Cerrito, offers "Community Country Dance" Contra, circle, and couple dances from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. on the second Friday of each month. An intro class is offered at 7:30 p.m. All dances are done to live fiddle music and prompted by caller Kirsten Koths. No partners are required. Beginners are welcome. Cost is \$10. Wear clean, no marking shoes. For more information, call 510-233-7929.

The Berkeley City Club and the Landmark Heritage Foundation, are dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the legacy of Julie Morgan. Take a free docent-led tour of the Berkeley City Club on the fourth Sunday of each month except December, 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Tours are free; donations are welcome. The Berkeley City Club is located at 2315 Durant Avenue (two blocks west of Telegraph Avenue). For more information, call 510-848-0181 or www.cl.berkeley.ca.us/histsoc/. The exhibit focuses on the colorful, artistic community of late 19th and early 20th century Berkeley — its inhabitants.

group reservations or more information, call 510-848-7800 or 510-883-9710.

Donations

Cars needed — Boys and Girls Clubs throughout California are running car campaigns to help support their programs. If you would like to donate your automobile, the Club can be contacted at 800-246-0493. Some restrictions apply.

Exhibits

Art exhibit — The Giorgi Gallery, 2911 Claremont Avenue, Berkeley, presents Kathy Coplon monotype prints "Refraction and in the Air" Sept. 1-19. Artist reception at 5 p.m., Sept. 2. Gallery hours Wednesday-Friday 1-6 p.m. and weekends 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Details: 510-848-1228 or giorgigallery@yahoo.com.

Enamel exhibition — The Arts & Crafts Cooperative Inc. (ACCI) Gallery will host the 7th International Juried Enamel Exhibition from Sept. 3-9 at 1652 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley. The exhibition will feature 37 artists showcasing work from traditional and non-traditional enameling techniques, highlighting the ancient art of fusing glass to metal. Opening reception 6-8 p.m. Sept. 10. Details: 510-843-2527.

Albany Arts Committee presents "Here We Are: Scenes from Not-So-Far Away," paintings of Albany by Kanna Aoki, in the Albany Community Center and Library's Foyer Gallery, 1249 Marin Ave., through Oct. 7. Details: 510-524-9283.

"Bohemian Berkeley 1890-1925" exhibit has been extended until Sept. 19 at the Berkeley History Center, 1931 Center St., Berkeley. Thursday-Saturday, 1-4 p.m. Details: 510-848-0181 or www.cl.berkeley.ca.us/histsoc/. The exhibit focuses on the colorful, artistic community of late 19th and early 20th century Berkeley — its inhabitants.

See CALENDAR, Page A8

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Maintaining a 100-year tradition of caring for our community, our Women's and Obstetrics Services will continue to answer the needs of mothers, babies and their families.

The Alta Bates campus is less than three miles from our Summit campus — and we've found that many Oakland moms already deliver at Alta Bates. Our nationally recognized newborn intensive care unit (NICU) is one of the most innovative in the country, ensuring that moms will not be separated from their newborns, should they require care in our NICU.

Come see for yourself! Schedule a tour of our maternity area by calling (510) 204-1334. For a physician referral, call our Health Match Referral Line at (510) 869-6777 or visit www.altabatessummit.org



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one place

Summit and Alta Bates Five Star staff now all together

Calendar

FROM PAGE A7

ideals, and activities. The exhibition features artifacts and photographs from the Berkeley Historical Society archives and the community.

■ Judah L. Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell St., continues its exhibit "A Voice Silenced," through Sept. 19. The exhibition, by Diane Neumayer, is in memory of Leonore Schwarz Neumayer. Gallery hours: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday. For more information, call 510-549-6950 or visit the Web site at www.magnes.org.

■ The seventh International Jeweled Enamel Exhibition to find a New Home at the Arts and Crafts Cooperative Inc. Gallery runs Sept. 3 to Oct. 9. Gallery Hours: Monday-Friday, 11-6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Opening reception: Friday, Sept. 10, 6-8 p.m. 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-2527

■ Giorgi Gallery, 2911 Claremont Ave., Berkeley, presents "An Angel Is My Watermark" through Aug. 30. Monoprints by Elizabeth Addison and her printmaking students from Studio 1509 in Berkeley. For more info about Elizabeth: www.studio1509fineart.com. 510-848-1228. Wednesday-Friday, 1-6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Film/dance/stage

■ Greek drama — Aurora Theatre Company opens its 13th season with "The Persians", an adaptation by actress and playwright Ellen McLaughlin, of the earliest surviving play in Western literature. Shows run Sept. 3 through Oct. 10 at 8 p.m., Wed.-Sat., and at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets \$28-\$45, available at 510-843-4822 or www.auroratheatre.org. 2081 Addison St., Berkeley.

■ On their toes — Suzanne Farrell Ballet, the company created by former New York City Ballet prima ballerina, Suzanne Farrell, returns to Berkeley for two performances of works by George Balanchine. Shows at 8 p.m. on Sept. 17-18 at Zellerbach Hall on the UC Berkeley campus. Tickets \$30, \$42, \$56, call 510-642-9988.

■ Northern points — The acclaimed National Ballet of Canada performs Balanchine's "Apollo", artistic director James Kudelka's "There, below", set to Vaughan Williams; and "The Four Seasons", set to

Vivaldi's famous sequence of concerti. Members of the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra join in for this Cal Performances engagement. Shows at 8 p.m. on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 & 2, and at 3 p.m. Oct. 3 at Zellerbach Hall on the UC Berkeley campus. Tickets \$36, \$48, \$68, call 510-642-9988.

■ Dancing spirit — The acclaimed Vlasyk Ukrainian National Dance Company celebrates the culture and rich dance traditions of the Ukraine in ballet master Pavlo Vlasyk's athletic choreography. Performing at 3 p.m. Sept. 19 at Zellerbach Hall on the UC Berkeley campus. Tickets \$24, \$36, \$48, call 510-642-9988.

■ All star international flamenco performers for Peace and Freedom at La Peña Sunday, Aug. 29, 8-10 p.m. Tickets \$20-50. With Yaelisa, La Monica, and La Fibi. Plus Jason McGuire and Ben Woods on guitars and singers Nina Menendez and Felix La Lola from Spain. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-5688 or www.lapeña.org.

■ Jyoti Kala Mandir performs Indian classical dance at the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, on Sunday, Sept. 19, at 5 p.m. Indian classical dance to live music by master musicians from India. \$15 adults, \$12 children/students/seniors. Tickets available at the door.

■ East meets west — Modern dance company Shen Wei Dance Arts, created by Chinese choreographer Shen Wei, makes its Bay Area debut with a program that includes "The Rite of Spring", an original work set to Stravinsky's famed two-piano score. Shows at 8 p.m. Sept. 25 and 7 p.m. Sept. 26 at Zellerbach Hall on the UC Berkeley campus. Tickets \$26, \$36, \$48, call 510-642-2868.

■ Free Shakespeare in the Park finishes its stay in Oakland's Lakeside Park this weekend with performances of Twelfth Night on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 28 and 29 at 4 p.m. Details: www.shakes.org or 415-865-4434.

■ Rhythm & Muse returns Aug. 28, with a Pablo Neruda Centennial Open Mic. Open mic sign-up is 6:30 p.m., reading starts at 7 p.m., Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St. 510-644-6893, 510-527-9753. Bring your favorite Neruda poems to read, or pieces inspired by Neruda! Cellist Gael Alcock and pianist Nicole Milner will be improvising as well. Piano and two mics Nunes noted, Rhythm & Muse is always held on the fourth Saturday of the month. Upcoming features: Sept. 25, Ali Jones and Gilberto

Zamora. Oct. 23, John Rowe and Rita Bregman.

■ Berkeley Repertory Theatre opens its 2004-05 season with "The Secret in the Wings", adapted and directed by Mary Zimmerman. Previews at Berkeley Rep begin Sept. 3, show opens Sept. 8 and closes Oct. 17. Single tickets priced between \$10 (standing room) and \$55, depending on the day of the week. Group discounts available (15 or more), as well as student and senior half-price "Rush" tickets. Berkeley Rep's Roda Theatre is at 2015 Addison St., next door to the Thrust Stage. Details or tickets: 510-647-2949 or www.berkeleyrep.org.

Learning

■ College for working adults — Fall 2004 enrollment for Program for Adult College Education -PACE- is open at Berkeley's Vista Community College now through Sept. 5. College alternative for adults with job and family responsibilities allows them to finish freshman and sophomore years in 2-1/2 years, then transfer to a four-year college to complete degree. Classes held six evenings a month and six Saturdays per term and include conferences, seminars, and television courses. Counseling, financial aid, and library services available to all PACE students. Marilyn Clausen at mclausen@peralta.cc.ca.us or 510-981-2868.

■ Life long learning — 55+? Retired? Join the Center for Learning in Retirement (CLR) and get free peer classes, cultural events, and discounted UC Extension classes. Located near San Francisco's Embarcadero BART/Muni Station. Enrollment between now and Aug. 31. 415-543-3965, www.clr.org.

■ Freedom from Tobacco Workshop — City of Berkeley Tobacco Prevention Program offers its new 3-Hour Quit Smoking Workshop, a smoking cessation class with the option of acupuncture (using ear points) to assist in quitting. Class meets 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Aug. 28, followed by five nights of acupuncture and a follow-up class from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. on Sept. 11. Class is free and will be held at the Alta Bates Medical Center/Ashby Campus, at 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley, in the first floor Auditorium. 510-981-5330 or at quitnow@ci.berkeley.ca.us.

■ Berkeley Adult School offers ceramics classes from 9 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays at the St. John's Senior Center, 2727 College Ave. Classes are free, materials and firing charges are not.

Lunch is offered at a minimal charge. Diana Bohr at 525-5497.

Literary events

■ California dreaming — Premalaya Bookstore, 1713 University Ave., Berkeley, presents "Dreamtime Rituals" a public lecture by author/ritualist, Antero Alli, at 6 p.m. Sept. 12. Admission free. Alli's book "Towards an Archeology of the Soul" will be made available at the lecture (\$18). Details: 510-548-4701, www.paraheathical.com/dreaming.html.

■ Live readings of short fiction: Actors Reading Writers: Celebrating Writing through Live Readings. "The Unsuitable Object of Desire," stories by Woody Allen, Robert Olen Butler and Pam Houston. Monday, Sept. 13, 7:30 p.m. at Berkeley City Club, 2135 Duran Ave. Free, open to the public.

■ The Albany Library presents a poetry reading by local writing instructor, counselor and poet, Janeil Moon, author of several collections of poetry, including "The Mouth of Home". In addition, she is the author of four spiritual non-fiction books, including "Stirring the Waters: Writing to Find Your Spirit and How to Pray Without Being Religious", HarperCollins, UK. Sept. 2, 7-9 p.m., followed by a poetry open mic. Edith Stone Room, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany. Light refreshments.

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Meetings/lectures

■ A presentation and discussion of the Cerrito Creek Greenway Plan in El Cerrito will be held Thursday, Sept. 2, from 7-9 p.m. (doors open at 6:45 p.m. for sign-in) at the Open House Senior Center, 6500 Stockton Ave. in El Cerrito. Heather Koch, City of El Cerrito, 510-423-4222 or hkoch@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.

■ Environmental restoration update — The City of Berkeley Planning Department is hosting a community update on Lawrence Berkeley Lab's soil and groundwater cleanup activities at 5:30-7 p.m. on Sept. 2 at 2118 Milvia Street, first floor conference room. Dr. Iraj Javandeh will present the update on the activities, which are performed under the oversight of the California Department of Toxic Substances Control. The public is welcome. www.lbl.gov/community, see "Site Environmental Restoration Program".

■ Cathedrals, Crop Circles and Sacred Space — A slide lecture by British author, Freddy Silva, 9-7 p.m., Aug. 30 at 1744 University Ave., Berkeley. Admission \$10.00 per seat. RSVP: www.sundayinthepark.org.

■ Old-time music — The Berkeley Old-Time Music Convention will be held Sept. 24-26 at various sites throughout Berkeley. Sept. 24, 8 p.m., concert at the Freight & Salvage, 1111 Addison, with Kate Brislin & Jody Stecher, Thompson String Ticklers, and the Earl White Band. Sept. 25, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Stringband Contest at the Berkeley Farmer's Market, Center St. & Milvia, free admission. Sept. 25, 8 p.m., Square dance at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo, with Foghorn Stringband, Rich Hartness & Gravel Court, and the Squirrely Stringband. Sept. 26, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

■ Bush whacking — "Sunday in the Park Without George" a concert and benefit for MoveOnPAC will take place from 3-7 p.m. Sept. 12 at the Coventry Grove in the Berkeley Hills. Featuring music by Bonnie Raitt and Taj Mahal, young spoken word performances by semi-finalists of the San Francisco Poetry Slam, MoveOn founders Joan Blades and Wes Boyd, comedian and political satirist Will Durst, and other special guests. Admission \$1,000 per seat. RSVP: www.sundayinthepark.org.

■ Upcoming performances: Tross Pub, 1822 San Pablo (near Hearst), Berkeley. Wednesday, Sept. 15 and Sept. 23 (old time and bluegrass Saturday, Sept. 4, 8:30 p.m., \$3 cover. pickPocket ensemble (folk and cafe-style) 9:30 p.m., \$8.45-2473 or www.abc.com. ■ Morning chamber music: Alexander String Quartet, lecturer/composer Robert Johnson, four programs and Wolfgang, exploring See CALENDAR

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Limits

FROM PAGE A1

lower than the Albany Commons, a beige, four-story mixed-use building on San Pablo at Solano avenues that has been criticized because of its height. But the proposed building would also be 250 feet long — 100 feet longer than Albany Commons.

"Because it's pretty consistently 38 feet all way across ... it's a pretty massive building that's going to sit on this street, compared to what's there, even with Portland Gardens sitting right there," said Dowswell. "It's going to dwarf Portland Gardens."

The city has been trying to encourage larger two- and three-story mixed-use developments on San Pablo Avenue for several years.

The idea behind the buildings is to beautify San Pablo Avenue, and provide new retail that will attract pedestrians while meeting the state's housing requirements.

Six years of work by two committees resulted in zoning recommendations that encouraged mixed-use developments.

Those recommendations went before the planning and zoning commission last October and were met by protests from 130 residents on San Pablo Avenue side streets who feared increased traffic, pollution, noise and lowered property values.

With new input from residents, the planning and zoning commission hashed out recommendations that provide for lowered height limits on San Pablo Avenue and high-density residential zoning on several blocks of Kains Avenue and Adams Street, which run parallel and adjacent to San Pablo Avenue.

The question is whether the new zoning recommendations will hinder the city's efforts to en-

courage developers to build mixed-use developments on San Pablo Avenue.

"For all intents and purposes, the zoning code has been the same since the 1970s, which allowed mixed-use to occur and it was reiterated in the San Pablo Vision plan and the reality of it didn't come to pass until recently," Dowswell said. "I wouldn't say it's a coincidence but Albany's time came. And mixed-use projects became more trendy to do in urban communities."

"We didn't cause this to happen. We didn't do anything to go out and attract developers to do mixed-use projects. Some cities would go out and actively recruit. They came in and talked to us."

A report from Berkeley-based Bay Area Economics states that the new zoning could change that. Lowered height limits, high-density residential zoning and a change in the floor area ratio (how much square footage is built in relation to the parcel on which it's built) will lower the profit margins for developers, from 10 to 12 percent under the old zoning, to 1.5 percent under the new zoning.

Bay Area Economics also drafted the city's 1997 San Pablo Avenue Vision Plan, which encourages two- and three-story mixed-use developments.

The San Pablo Avenue zoning analysis makes sense, said Dowswell. The height limit issue in particular could affect the mortuary development, which includes three architectural towers — two of which are 40 feet, the other 45 feet tall — to break up the building's massive appearance.

"The architectural features are too tall and the building is two feet too tall or two feet too wide," he said.

Some residents have dismissed the report as biased and a last-minute ruse by City Administrator Beth Pollard to unravel a compromise residents and the

planning commission reached after nine months of meetings.

"When the planning commission reviewed the report, we felt there were some assumptions and some holes in it that slanted the report in a certain direction," said planning and zoning commissioner Phillip Moss.

City Councilman Allan Marin said another question is how successful the Portland Gardens and Albany Commons buildings have been economically and what their effect has been on the immediate neighborhood.

So far the buildings have attracted a total of two commercial tenants, a chiropractor and a nail salon.

If the recommendations are approved by the City Council, height limits would be lowered from 40 feet to 35 feet for buildings without a 20 percent affordable housing component. Most of the Kains/Adams blocks would be limited to high-density housing, with questions remaining about how to zone the property now occupied by the Albany Bowl.

The height limit question and Kains Avenue and Adams Street zoning may be settled Monday night, said Albany planning consultant Ed Phillips. A complex set of zoning revisions will come back as a whole for final approval by the council in the coming weeks.

The mortuary project will also be brought back in the future to the planning commission for approval.

"In some ways, the timing of the project is perfect, because we're using it to measure how this new ordinance works," said Dowswell. "It wouldn't surprise me if the ordinance goes the way it does today, that we will revisit it in the future, if not on this project then on some other project."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

UC Berkeley hall will get new name

By Martin Snapp

STAFF WRITER

Next Monday, Aug. 30, College Duran Apartments, a 120-bed UC Berkeley residential hall at the corner of College and Durant, will trade in its geographically accurate but otherwise prosaic name for a much prouder one: the Ida Louise Jackson Graduate House.

Mary Ann Mason, Dean of the Graduate Division, will preside at the dedication ceremony, joined by John Cooke, president of Cal's Black Alumni Club, and members of Jackson's sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha.

Jackson, who died in 1996 at age 93, was one of Cal's most distinguished alums. She graduated in 1922 and received her master's degree two years later. She was working toward a doctorate at Columbia, but had to abandon it because of family obligations.

She was the first African American woman to be certified to teach in California. In 1926, she became the first black teacher in Oakland. She had to wait 12 years before another African American was hired.

Although she enjoyed the academics at Cal, she felt invisible among her white classmates, who never spoke to her, and professors who rarely called on her. When she was a junior, she and five other young women founded the Rho Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha, the first black sorority on campus.

Jackson borrowed \$45 from her mother to pay for having their formal group portrait taken for the "student clubs" section of the Blue and Gold yearbook. But when the yearbooks arrived a few months later, their portrait was nowhere to be seen. The of-

IF YOU GO

- **WHAT:** Dedication of the Ida Louise Jackson Graduate House.
- **WHEN:** Monday, Aug. 30, at 11 a.m.
- **WHERE:** 2333 College Ave.

ficial explanation: Alpha Kappa Alpha "wasn't representative of the student body."

Jackson later served as the national president of Alpha Kappa Alpha from 1934 to 1936. About that time, she founded the Mississippi Health Project, which immunized thousands of babies against diphtheria and cholera. She later served as Dean of Women at Tuskegee Institute.

In 1971 she received the Berkeley Citation, awarded to graduates who reflect the highest ideals of the University. In 1974 she was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and the Berkeley Fellows honorary society. She was also one of 39 distinguished alumni asked to contribute memories to "There was Light," a book commemorating the University's first century.

She always regretted not getting her doctorate. So in 1972 she donated hundreds of acres of rolling pasture and forest land in Mendocino County to the university and asked that the proceeds be used for fellowships for black students working on their dissertations.

Shortly before she died, a reporter asked her, "Do you consider yourself a woman pioneer, a black pioneer, or an education pioneer?"

"I really haven't classified myself," she replied. "I suppose I've tried to be the best at living every day, and at seeing the best in



THE LATE Ida Louise Jackson, a 1922 UC Berkeley graduate who had a long and distinguished career as a nurse and educator, will be honored at the new residential hall named in her memory.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-243-3578 or email me at msnapp@cctimes.com.

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Hate

FROM PAGE A1

"People are just really shocked that that would happen in our neighborhood," Denis Paul said.

Twenty-four same-sex couples

from El Cerrito went to San Francisco to get married this year until the courts halted the ceremonies.

Denis Paul is studying to become a Unitarian Universalist minister and wanted to hold a nondenominational prayer service to help clear their minds of

what he considers the first time they have been violently targeted as gay men.

"We've experienced open hostility before," Denis Paul said, citing an incident in Massachusetts when a gay pride flag was taken from their house the day after they put it up.

Now the Pauls, who once shared the same first name and decided to make it their family name, fly an Italian peace flag.

And Denis Paul wants to use ministry to work with victims and criminals toward new forms of justice.

"Whoever did this," he said, "well, just get over it."

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Classroom achievement depends on involvement

By Jackie Burrell

STAFF WRITER

Parental involvement in the classroom isn't an academic nicety.

It is so directly linked to student achievement that state and federal education experts use parent involvement as a barometer in judging school success. And under the No Child Left Behind Act, test scores are joined by parent involvement in qualifying for federal dollars.

The massive West Contra Costa school district, which has schools at both the top and the bottom of the academic performance index, gives a stark example of just how closely parent volunteerism ties to academic achievement.

Schools like Kensington Elementary, El Cerrito's Madera and Richmond's Valley View enjoy long traditions of community involvement and high test scores.

But parent volunteerism at some of the lower-ranking schools is nearly nonexistent, as language barriers, cultural issues and economic pressures make Parent Teacher Associations and classroom volunteers a rarity.

"It's (been) the hills versus the flatlands," said Kensington parent Charley Cowens, who hopes to change that trend as president of the Bayside Council of PTAs.

"The culture of learning needs to have a lot of support, real engagement," said West Contra Costa schools trustee Patricia Player. "Everything I read shows (where) schools do well, parents are involved. (But) there are schools where parents don't feel welcomed or their lives are so pressured. Sometimes parents don't feel respected enough. We need to turn that around."

On a hot August Saturday, an arid wind blows debris down deserted streets in Richmond's Iron Triangle. Down at the end of a dead-end street, newly refurbished Verde Elementary glows like a beacon. Curious schoolchildren venture out, eager for a peek.

This school represents the future to Verde father Steven Fox, president of the school's fledgling PTA.

"Everybody considers (North Richmond) a little hole in the ground, and that's not right," he said.

At age 30, Fox is one of the elder statesmen in the Verde community. Most of the parents are 17 to 20 years old, barely grown themselves. Some see the school as child care, said Fox.

"Luckily, I have good, dedicated people that want to strive. Most of the parents down there are very young, (but) we want to make this better, and we can't rely on the state," said Fox, a father of five who also serves on Verde's school site council. "I voice my opinion when something's not right, (but) a lot of parents feel they're not heard."



NEW KINDERGARTEN student Natalia Enriquez, 4, is welcomed to El Cerrito's Madera School by PTA member Rula Adriani, left, on the first day of classes in the West Contra Costa School District. Natalia's mom, Maria Garcia, and brother Eduardo Enriquez, 8, accompany her. Madera benefits from a high rate of parent involvement.

JOANNA JHANDE/STAFF

The school's last PTA effort ended disastrously, when several thousand dollars in hard-earned cash disappeared at school. So many parents were on welfare that no one had been willing to open a PTA bank account, fearing it could affect their state aid, said Fox. When the cash disappeared, rumors ran rampant about who took it.

"It was very discouraging for all the parents at Verde. It was very hard getting everyone's trust," said Fox. "But the state PTA forgave us on the debt. It was a big deal for us. By the end of (last) year, we had a really good bond between African-Americans, Caucasians and Hispanics. For us to work together in that community, that was great."

Fox believes the PTA will help not just Verde's children but the whole community. He is not alone.

"Our fundamental philosophy is that we're in this to support all children. A rising tide raises all ships," said Hilma Jones, a Lafayette parent who serves on California PTA's 32nd District board, which oversees Contra Costa County's 40,000 PTA members.

Kensington Elementary's PTA sees itself as "an intermediary between parents and administrators, including the school board, to address issues of concern." That intermediary role is typical of PTAs, said Jones.

It's not always welcome, though, said Cowens.

The perception is that administrators are not that into parent involvement, unless you've got a grant," Cowens said wryly.

District spokesman Paul Hara said increased parent involvement has been a priority for the past three years, ever since the state's fiscal crisis and management assistance team delivered its thick sheaf of recommendations.

One of the goals has been to increase the involvement of immigrant families and African-American parents.

At Kennedy High School, a new African-American Parent Task Force was launched last year by parents and assistant principal Hattie Smith. The task force meets monthly to share concerns and suggestions with administrators.

Portola Middle School struggles with language barriers. It supplies an interpreter at school site council meetings in a bid to boost parental involvement.

Verde Elementary has tinkered with its meeting times, trying to make volunteerism easier for its working parents, but it's still a struggle.

"Most are single mothers. They have to get their kids dressed and fed. They don't have time to come (to a meeting) for two hours," said Fox.

More outreach could be done. Just six of the district's 50-plus schools have Web sites with PTA links and volunteer invitations. Information and meeting dates are hard to come by. And parents who want to volunteer must first pay for, as well as pass, a tuberculosis test.

The cost and the process are all barriers to volunteerism, especially among immigrant parents, who "don't feel as knowledgeable about the culture," said

Player.

Player wants to streamline the process by making TB testing and volunteer photos an option during registration day.

PTA and classroom teacher work are not the only options for parent involvement. Chavez and Dover elementary schools attempt to include parents who work for the district as teachers or aides in their "parent involvement" tallies, stretching the definition.

But one aspect of parent volunteerism is mandated by law. Schools that receive school improvement program, or SIP, funds — basically, all schools — must have school site councils. These 10-member, parent-faculty groups determine how tens of thousands of discretionary dollars is spent, and which curriculum areas should be targeted.

A school like high-achieving Madera has little trouble filling its roster. Others are not so fortunate. Four schools had vacancies on their councils, and 20 percent of the schools did not turn in paperwork last year identifying council members.

"As a parent, (site council) lets me have a say in what's happening, but finding parents to serve is very difficult," said Portola Middle School parent Janet Abelson. "They work during the day."

Reach Jackie Burrell at 925-977-8568 or jburrell@cctimes.com.

Class

FROM PAGE A1

that seniors no longer have a priority over others to get their schedules changed and that three "really good" teachers just left.

Anything good about the first day?

"Seeing my friends," she said.

"Being a senior," added David Weary.

Weary and Moncrease were near the entrance to the counseling office, where two counselors were seeing students one-by-one to change their schedules.

About 60 students, some with their parents, waited in the hall after school to get their classes changed.

"They were even thinking about cutting counselors when they have only two," said 16-year-old Sofia Opeyan. "It's always like this every year."

Sofia's mother said they had been there for an hour and expected to be there for another two hours before they could see a counselor.

El Cerrito City Councilwoman Janet Abelson was also in line with her daughter Sarah Abelson.

"I've had four kids come

through here. Time I've had Abelson said. This year time during it to go to Principal Vincenzo's daughter because she was all organizing to move on the high school gets cut allow for no

Rhea said despite totaling \$6.7 million meant larger reduction of one year. The projected population is 1,440, about last year, he said. "In schools, we expect percentage of regarding teachers. "I woulders out of a staff to go elsewhere moved out of the

More challenging the school's plans residential housing while it under construction that could last

"That would be school experience housing... Rhea substantial."

The debate over part of a recent over the relatively ogy in the Bay Area.

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"Chandeliers add twinkle to a boudoir." People are treating their bedroom suites as more luxurious personal spaces with elaborate bathroom areas, so it is not unreasonable to consider chandeliers there, either," says Dan Biltz, director of education for the ALA.

"Chandelettes," or mini chandeliers, add a new sense of intimacy to small rooms and to corner spaces and alcoves of larger ones. "Minis are even being used as wall sconces in some instances — and they look fantastic," says lighting and furniture designer Sergio Orozco, whose offices are in New York City.

These compact chandeliers are 9 to 12 inches in diameter to slip easily into tight spaces. For added

See CHANDELIER, Page B2



METRO CREATIVE SERVICES

TODAY CHANDELIER rate as a brilliant idea just about anywhere — from modest homes to magnificent mansions, contemporary digs to traditional houses. They dangle decorously in almost every room of the house. Taller ceilings and increased volume in today's homes means chandeliers are less likely to crowd a room.

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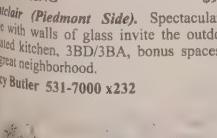
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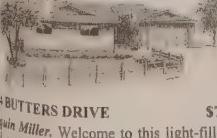
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Chandeliers

FROM PAGE B1

impact, consider grouping them. "You can hang two small ones over a kitchen counter and the result is gorgeous," says Eileen Schonbek-Ber, with Schonbek Worldwide Lighting. "These smaller chandeliers also work in more modest homes or where there are 8-foot ceilings."

Chandeliers have also sized up to accommodate the soaring foyers and sweeping two-story spaces of larger homes. "The demand for massive chandeliers to fill these areas has also increased," says Schonbek-Ber. "A 20-foot ceiling today is no longer unusual."

The experts at the American Lighting Association have spotted the following trends in chandeliers:

Mixed Messages: Mixing of materials and styles within one fixture is now a common design trend. It is not unusual, for example, to find a rustic cast-iron fixture with crystals hanging from it, or different metals and types of glass all incorporated into one fixture.

"American styles are decidedly eclectic and homeowners today are very comfortable mixing styles," says Blitz. "Chandeliers lend themselves neatly to that process. You can look for a chandelier that is inspired by the period reflected in the room you are putting it in, but you don't have to. Many contemporary designs are a blend of traditional elements with modern materials — glass and alabaster with polished chrome or satin nickel, which makes them work with a variety of styles."

Color me beautiful: While sparkling clear crystal refracts and reflects light, designers offer chandeliers in a rainbow of shades to complement decor. Colored crystal can combine with clear to create a prism of hue. Smokey quartz, rock crystal and amethyst offer an antique feel.

Finish line: Chandeliers no longer feature just one metal or just one finish. The latest looks offer multitone finishes created by painted or chemical processes.

Dim it: Whether they are ornate and multi-armed or simply feature a large-scale bowl, chandeliers need a dimmer so homeowners can control the intensity of light. "Most of the time, the lighting capability of a chandelier is more than is actually necessary to light the space," says Rey-Barreau. "They should always be controlled by a dimmer to add to the aesthetic appeal."

Match point: Once a design preference has been identified, the chandelier should simply be another decorative element. "There is a trend to eclectic interiors where traditional, transitional and modern will blur within the same room," says Rey-Barreau. "The chandelier doesn't need to 'match' the decor in a very rigid manner. If it works visually for the user, then it's fine."

To find a lighting showroom near you, call toll free 800-274-4484. For brochure on how to incorporate lighting in your life, send \$2 to the American Lighting Association, PO Box 420288, Dallas, TX 75342 or visit www.americanlightingassoc.com.

Sizing up the situation

Chandeliers are designed to float in a room as an important part of the decor. Too large and this fixture will overpower the space. Too small and it will look out of place.

overpower the space. Too small and it will look out of place.

"Placing a chandelier that is too small in a space is likely the biggest mistake because it's very noticeable," says Joe Rey-Barreau, educational consultant for the American Lighting Association (ALA) and assistant professor of interior design at the University of Kentucky. "Great designers, therefore, tend to make their decisions on fixtures that may appear slightly larger than might be appropriate. It's generally always best to make the mistake on a fixture being too big than too small."

To make sure your chandelier is the right size for the room in which it will hang, consider the following questions.

1. How high is your ceiling? Taller ceilings demand larger fixtures.

2. What is the size and shape of your table? Island? The chandelier should complement, not overpower, anything you plan to suspend it over.

3. How big is the room you are trying to illuminate? Again, be sure

color or a material that is predominant in the decoration scheme of the room. What catches your eye in the room? What type of statement do you want to make? If the room is more traditional, choose chandeliers with more ornamentation and decorative details. If your home is modern, opt for less ornamentation and simpler details.

If the choices are not clear, it's always best to rely on the help of a lighting consultant in a lighting showroom to help guide the decision. "Sometimes, it's simply a matter of choosing what feels good," says Joe Rey-Barreau. "Lighting consultants often have design backgrounds and help move you in the right direction."

When shopping for a chandelier, the American Lighting Association suggests the following tips to help you find the fixture of your dreams.

Be prepared: Visit lighting showrooms armed with a photo or sketch of space you are trying to light.

"Fabrics, photos of furniture, or images of the house are great help in this process," says Rey-Barreau. "And don't forget to ask the sales associate for assistance."

Check it out: Scrutinize the chandelier before buying. Look at detail and finish quality. Castings should be neat out of the mold so they look clean. Shades or other attachments should sit neatly in a plumb fashion. Ask the cut and quality of the crystal and durability of finishes.

Light it right: Be sure to choose the correct light bulbs for your particular chandelier. According to the experts, clear bulbs in chandeliers with exposed bulbs, or crystal glass enclosures will enhance sparkle. In chandeliers with linen shades, frosted bulbs cast a pleasing glow and won't create shadows.

Buy a few extra light bulbs for chandeliers at the time of purchase. Nothing's worse than having a bulb go out right before a dinner party.

Weight there: Always consider the weight of the chandelier. Chandeliers heavier than 50 pounds have to be mounted more securely to the house's structure. "This is a criterion of the National Electrical Code, and the electrician hanging the fixture should be aware of this," says Rey-Barreau. "It doesn't hurt to remind them, however."

More is more: Don't let a chandelier stand alone in a room. Like a star, they need a supporting cast of characters to help them do their job. "A chandelier needs supplemental lighting around it," says Blitz.

"Don't sweat to find the one fixture that does everything. It is best to achieve a layer of light in the rooms with sconces, table and floor lamps."

— Courtesy of ARA Content

Chandeliers are designed to float in a room as an important part of the decor. Too large and this fixture will overpower the space. Too small and it will look out of place.

the chandelier is not too big or too small for the room.

4. What is the form and design of the chandelier? Light, airy fixtures tend to look larger.

Shopping for a chandelier

Fashionable and functional, chandeliers should be incorporated into the home just as any decorative accessory or object of art would be chosen.

"I would urge consumers to view this purchase with same enjoyment they would use in buying fine furniture," says Dan Blitz, educational consultant for the American Lighting Association. "A fine chandelier is an investment that will add to the value of your home."

To find the right style chandelier for your home, simply begin with a

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GARAGE SALE PRIMER



A WELL PLANNED GARAGE SALE is a great way to recycle and make money at the same time.

How to make the most of garage sales in your neighborhood

BY BETTY LIN-FISHER

KNIGHT RIDDER

It's true that one person's trash is another person's treasure.

Just look at how many garage or yard sales you see on any given weekend — and the number of people who attend them.

Garage sales are a great place to go looking for a bargain or treasure. You never know what you'll find. That's part of the thrill of the hunt.

What are some tips to be a successful seller and buyer at a garage sale? The two camps often have different agendas — the sellers want to get rid of their stuff while making money and buyers want to snap up deals at rock-bottom prices.

But there are also many times when a seller and buyer will mesh wonderfully. The seller wants to get

rid of as much stuff as possible and prices things so they'll practically walk away from the garage — and there are buyers willing to take them.

Chris Heiska, whose Web site — www.yardsalequeen.com — is filled with practical tips, suggests pricing items a quarter to a third below what it could fetch if new.

"Of course, there's a lot of leeway in there because nobody cares if you paid \$50 for your old physics textbook or your old bowling ball," said the Maryland resident, who confesses that she's addicted to garage and yard sales. She only missed one weekend of sales after giving birth to her son via an emergency Cesarean section a few years ago.

Heiska is a serious shopper. Every Saturday she goes bargain hunting — sometimes for items for

Hints for
savvy garage
sale buyers

Here are some tips from Chris Heiska Wells, on buying items at garage sales:

Map out your route so you don't waste it on the way.

Some people sell early in the day, selection while there's still time.

When buying items, don't just rely on the tag. Keep in mind that items have been washed a lot or shrunk. Bring along a child's shirt or pants to see if they fit.

Be careful with products that have been potentially dangerous.

See HINTS, Page B3

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Climb the ladder to successful bond investing

Diversifying your portfolio, generating income and possibly some stability to your holdings are just a few of many reasons to invest in bonds. But choosing the best bond investment strategy can sometimes be a bit tricky.

A strategy that concentrates in a narrow maturity range might force an investor to reinvest into a very low interest rate environment. In contrast, a laddering strategy lets you reinvest gradually, maintaining a portfolio of bonds earning different interest rates.

Assume the first bond in which you invested has reached maturity and it is time to reinvest the principal. If market interest rates are currently higher than the coupon on the maturing bond, you will probably be able to reinvest the principal at a higher rate of interest. Conversely, if interest rates are lower, you most likely still have a significant portion of your bond portfolio — those that have not yet matured — invested at higher coupon rates.

The interest or coupon rates associated with bonds are important because one of the main reasons many people invest in them is to generate income. Most bonds pay interest semiannually, so in the example above you could select bonds that made payments in different months of the year.

This would provide you with steady income throughout the year that could cover living expenses.

Bonds can be a good choice for providing diversity



LEILA GOUGH
Money Matters

Whether you are a seasoned fixed-income investor or have never bought a bond, a laddering strategy can help reduce volatility and avoid concentrating reinvestment risk in your portfolio.

and adding income to your portfolio. If you are looking for a simple and systematic approach to investing in them, you might want to think about using a laddering strategy. Talk to your financial consultant about risks associated with investing in bonds and see if they might be a good addition to your investment mix.

Leila Gough is an Associate Vice President with A. G. Edwards, member SIPC in Oakland. She can be reached at (510) 452-8060.

Uncover your 'closet' personality

■ Organization strategies to suit your style

HOME DEPOT

A look inside your household closets can provide a glimpse of your true "inner self." From the volume and selection of stored contents to how they're organized, your closets are a kaleidoscope of your "unedited" self.

Regardless of how you store, stack or stockpile your personal belongings, if getting organized is on your to-do list, first ask yourself a simple question: What's your primary reason for not purging or organizing the contents of your closets? Here are some typical responses:

- No time — takes too much time to get organized
- Functional — no need to re-arrange it because it works for me
- Pack rat — items have sentimental value
- Not me — I don't have excess inventory and I'm already organized

According to Vince Wood of AdvisorTeam.com, an online personality assessment firm, your an-

swer likely reflects one of four personality types described in the "Temperament Theory," a principle applied by psychologists for more than 50 years.

Whatever your individual profile, Home Depot experts offer an organization solution to help even the most complex personalities get their closets in tip-top shape. Answer the question above to determine your personality type and read on to find the solution.

The artisan

Those who answer "A" have a tendency to be artisans — the least organized by conventional standards. "Artisans tend to be very independent. They have their own style and actually know where everything is," Wood ex-

plains. "If you organize their messy desks, they'll have trouble finding things."

The key to creating a successful closet for the artisan is to keep it simple. Mike Mullinax, a Home Depot's buyer for storage and organization systems, suggests a Mill's Pride (shoe stacker for organizing footwear), since it gives them increased storage capacity without the structure of a shoe caddy. Other organization products Mullinax recommends for the artisan include a ClosetMaid (ventilated shelving system accented with a series of sliding wire baskets and stackable storage boxes).

The rational

Someone who falls into the rational personality portrait is very practical and will tend to answer "B." These personality types will wear clothes and shoes as long as they're still functional. Rationals are focused on problem solving and are interested in finding the most efficient solutions possible. Since Rationals are very goal-oriented and pride themselves on their ingenuity, they like to have control over designing their own closets.

To appeal to a rational's practical nature, Mullinax recommends a closet starter kit from Mill's Pride, which includes five hanging bars and an interior solid shelf, and can be personalized with



drawers, cabinet doors and additional shelves.

"Labor accounts for much of the cost associated with a custom-made closet," said Mullinax. "Home Depot offers all of the materials to create the same look at a fraction of the cost. And, most systems only require a basic skill level to assemble and install."

A well-planned system can even take the place of certain furniture items, such as a dresser or armoire, leaving more usable space in the bedroom, he says.

The idealist

If you're not ashamed to call yourself a "pack rat" who saves items for their sentimental value versus their functionality, then you may have an Idealist personality. Idealists yearn for romance and are not terribly organized by default, but they are on a constant

See CLOSETS, Page B8



3 New Listings



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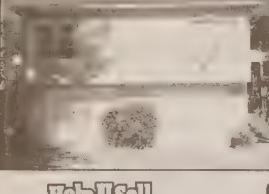


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Very cute 3-bedroom, 2 bath home with Bay views and Old World touches. Charming brick fireplace in living room, nice hardwood floors, master suite. Deck off family room, lovely gardens front and back. All on one level!

Berkeley
\$699,000
Creative, contemporary multi-level converted bungalow, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 staircases, 2 wet bars! Open living room with fireplace. Large kitchen. Large dining room. Large deck. Large yard. Detached garage.

Berkeley
Berkeley CA 94707
(510) 527.2700

Berkeley
\$849,000
Handsome rambling four bedroom, three bath brown shingle in the historical Le Conte district. New kitchen and baths. Three fireplaces. Large woodsy yard. Near Berkeley Bowl.

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The adventures of first-time home buyers

choosing a home can be nerve-wracking
and inexperience
by JEFF BENNETT
OF RODER NEWSPAPERS

A phone rang at about 4 a.m., I awoke, Kimberley Ko... and in tears.

Two hours before we had com... an hour-long conversation reached a decision. We would offer on the house it had us three months to find.

However, had changed her mind. It wasn't long before I followed. Instead, by 10 a.m., we make an offer on a new condo another house we had laid only a few days before. But I was ahead of myself.

I just to get to this point months of intense work the seven basic steps of first-time buying. For those entering the housing market it can be the most stressful, mentally taxing, sometimes confusing, exhilarating journeys in life.

Where to live.

Although it seems simple, where to live is crucial and first decision we made to every week, there are scores houses listed for sale in real es... The information can be overwhelming if you haven't found out a specific area before. Even within our defined area, we looked at more houses.

We discussed what we wanted in this house. We agreed could only be a starting point, and of a place where would the rest of our lives. Since no children and schools were an issue, we decided to an area that fit our lifestyle. We wanted a community feel between the urban environment of downtown Detroit and a quiet suburb like Southfield. In finding a place with a downtown that supported dining, including restaurants and stores. There be a variety of nightlife such as bars, coffeehouses

music

Finally, we didn't want to our 25-minute commute offices in downtown Detroit. Grade ranked high on the list, by Pleasant Ridge, a small

piece of Oak Park and Berkley. We later dropped Berkley because it was too family-focused. Royal Oak never made our cut because we thought the prices were too expensive for the ages, styles and floor plans of the homes there.

Pick a real estate agent.

The mere mention of the words "we are looking for a home" will generate a hailstorm of cards from and recommendations for real estate agents. If you're stuck, ask a coworker or friend for some ideas.

Out of all the suggestions, the decision came down between a family friend, Plymouth builder Walter Menard, and Kim's brother Kirk, who had just received his real estate license and was working for Island Realty in Gross Isle.

We decided on Kirk, but it wasn't because of his family ties. He was the one who could devote the most time and attention to our needs. If you are serious about finding a place, you need an agent who, first, can match your pace and, second, knows the area you've selected for your search.

It was the end of March when we started our house hunt. Our goal was to be in a house by the end of June so we could escape renewing our yearlong apartment leases.

As we discovered, Sunday is the big open house day across metro Detroit. But open houses usually run only from 1 to 4 p.m., and many houses you may want to see — especially the latest ones to hit the market — require prospective buyers to make appointments. The real estate agent must handle that chore and must be with you at every house you enter.

The size of your selection pool depends on how many houses your agent can get you into. At the height of our house hunt madness, Kirk managed to get us inside six houses in 90 minutes one night.

But that is just the beginning of the Realtor's role. He or she also handles making the offer, which involves completing all the paperwork. Each offer requires forms that must be signed in triplicate. The copies go to you, your real estate company and the seller. Our agent had to prepare at least 35 pages of documents for each offer. We ended up making three offers.

The clock is always running and others are out there shopping. Any delay could cost you your chance

at your dream home. Real estate agents representing buyer and seller split the average 6 percent commission they make on the deal, so we had no hesitation about calling Kirk four to five times a day and peppering him with questions.

Find a mortgage lender.

Before starting our hunt we needed to know what we could afford. Like real estate agents, there are plenty of home mortgage lenders out there.

You have to shop around and find someone you can trust. That means going on a few office visits, asking a lot of questions and comparing what the lenders will do for you.

We chose Mark Savitskie of Agent Home Loans in Plymouth. He met with us near our jobs and answered all our questions.

During the loan process you'll get a financial snapshot via a credit check that reviews your financial history for debt and how much credit you use. The higher your score, the better your chance of getting a lower-interest loan.

You will be asked one of the most difficult questions at this point: What type of loan do you want? There are 30-year fixed rate loans and the 15-, 5- and 3-year adjustable rate mortgages.

Adjustable rate mortgage loans can offer lower starting interest rates than fixed-rate loans. That translates into immediate savings on interest costs. You lock in the rate, for instance, for five years. After that, however, the rate can increase or decrease depending on where current interest rates stand.

We chose to go with a five-year ARM because we aren't planning on being in our home for 30 years.

You must decide how much money you can put down, too. All loans are structured to allow you to invest a down payment of any amount.

But if possible, try to put down 20 percent, even if it means borrowing from family or friends like we did. Anything less than 20 percent and you may end up paying private mortgage insurance (PMI). This insurance protects the lender against any loss arising from the borrowers' default on the loan. Paying PMI, however, is just an extra cost and does nothing to lower your mortgage.

Set your requirements.

With our background work com-

plete, we could finally begin our hunt. We decided to start by using a Sunday to visit 10 open houses. This helped us form a list of things we wanted in a house. This list, like choosing an area, is crucial, because your agent uses your requirements to cull through new properties that appear on the market. The more requirements you provide, such as that the house must have central air or it must not face a busy street, the less time is wasted.

We wanted a house between 1,300 and 1,600 square feet. The size meant we would get a house that was big but not too big, because we like to spend our weekends camping and golfing rather than cleaning and doing yard work.

We wanted three bedrooms and at least two bathrooms, one of which would have to be on the second level. This requirement would prove a pivotal point in our house hunt because most houses in the area we were searching have only one bathroom. Because Kim loves to cook, we needed a place with a good kitchen and a separate area for eating. We were willing to compromise on this requirement, but not much. Also, we wanted a garage where we could fit at least one of our cars, if not both.

See FIRST TIME. Page B12

Reid

FROM PAGE B3

■ Florida fun is the National Association of Realtors theme for 2004. The Realtors Conference & Expo, "Take It To A New Level" is Nov. 5 to 8, in Orlando. Go to MACROUTTON www.RearAnchor.org/Conference.

GREAT AMERICA

The Bay East Association of Realtors is sponsoring the SF Bay Area Realtor Associations Picnic & Day at PGA, tomorrow. All members from any association can participate in the Great America fun. Besides all the rides, and a meal, discounted tickets and parking are offered. Contact Susan at (925) 730-4077.

ZOO STARS

Save these dates. Sept. 24 is date for the Oakland Association of Realtors' "Music Under The Stars" night, at the Chabot Space and Science Center. Pet the baby animals when you attend OAR's "A Day At The Zoo." This 4th Annual Realtor Appreciation event is Sept. 29. Get information by calling 510-396-3300.

BAR THANKS

The Berkeley Association of Realtors wants to recognize Realtor and Affiliate members who volunteer and give back to the community. Association members who are

making a difference can be nominated by contacting the BAR office. The Special Events Committee will judge the BAR Cares Awards. Presentations will be made at monthly membership luncheons. Mail your nomination to BAR at 1553 Martin Luther King Way, Berkeley 94709.

COLE CLASSES

Veteran coach and trainer Kitty Cole offers several classes for Realtors. You can get the listing, hand buyers and gain presentation skills. Classes are offered in Berkeley, Pleasanton and Fremont. Register for September classes by calling 925-254-1900 or use e-mail at [www.kittycb@juno.com](mailto:kittycb@juno.com)

TRAINED PERFORMANCE

Level3 Performance Training promises less prospecting and more sales. Become a top producer. Level3 invites Realtors to attend a no cost, no obligation program orientation. Training for entire offices is available. Call Eric Eng at 510-376-8719

CHALLENGING SUCCESS

Kudos and applause to the Alameda Association of Realtors Anne Bracci and those who helped to make the Sports Challenge a success. The charity fund-raiser benefits the Special Olympics.

TELL ME!

I'll announce your news item in this column if you send it to me. Deadline is two weeks before the event. E-mail: bobbieraid@mindspring.com; fax 510-441-7191.

WELLS & BENNETT REALTORS

New Listing! First Open House Sunday, August 29th, 2~4:30pm



1845 Northwood Court
Offered at \$1,399,000

Mary Neuberger
(510) 485-7251



Professionalism and progress since 1924 - A family tradition

PIEDMONT - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

778 KINGSTON AVENUE \$1,399,000

New price for this architectural treasure. Historic shingle style home w/unbelievable property. Deep level lawn & gardens. 4BR/2.5BA, library & sunroom. Erika Celestre

67 WILDWOOD AVENUE \$1,095,000

A very special prairie-style 4BR/2.5BA home w/lively Craftsman finishes. Ideally located on a quiet, tree-lined street, steps away from shops & dining. Steve Michaelides

Sophisticated and superbly constructed three year old home with gorgeous views of 3 bridges and lush canyons.

Three bedrooms, three full baths, main-level suite/home office with separate entrance, fabulous eat-in kitchen, formal dining room, gracious living and family rooms and wine cellar. Sited on a Montclair cul-de-sac just minutes from the Village and Highway 13.

1845 Northwood Court

Offered at \$1,399,000

Mary Neuberger

(510) 485-7251

Light & airy traditional with 3+ bedrooms & extra room downstairs. Remodeled kitchen & baths. Lovely hardwood floors & wonderful roof garden! Michelle Winchester

OAKLAND & BERKELEY - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

5938 RINCON DRIVE \$699,000

Sophisticated & fabulous 1940's architecture. Walls of glass provide glorious Bay views. Dining room opens to level lawn & patio. Sunny eat-in kitchen & spacious home office with separate entrance. 3BR/1.5BA. Jill Carrigan

Sun-drenched & charming in Montclair. Affordable 3BR/2BA w/updated kitchen & baths. Level our deck & rear garden. Great value.

\$599,000

Elizabeth Dickson

4040 PANAMA COURT \$629,000

Live beautifully in this totally renovated Craftsman. 2BR/1BA & rent the detached studio above the garage to defray the costs. Extra space for office/studio, etc. Creekside setting in urban location. Katherine Cooper

Sun-drenched & charming in Montclair. Affordable 3BR/2BA w/updated kitchen & baths. Level our deck & rear garden. Great value.

\$599,000

Elizabeth Dickson

7201 SARONI DRIVE \$599,000

Sun-drenched & charming in Montclair. Affordable 3BR/2BA w/updated kitchen & baths. Level our deck & rear garden. Great value.

\$599,000

Elizabeth Dickson

62 SERENO CIRCLE \$579,000

Visualize home ownership! Now you can with this dramatic 2BR/2+BA brown shingle contemporary townhome. Features include vaulted ceilings, spacious decks & private courtyard.

\$579,000

Mavis Delacroix

PIEDMONT, OAKLAND & BERKELEY - BY APPOINTMENT

CLAREMONT HILLS \$995,000

Berkeley. Beautifully updated Mediterranean! Bay view, sunny decks, & magical courtyard. 3BR/2.5BA formal dining, family room/office/separate entry. Bebe McRae

Beautifully updated Mediterranean! Bay view, sunny decks, & magical courtyard. 3BR/2.5BA formal dining, family room/office/separate entry. Bebe McRae

\$995,000

Bebe McRae

SAN PABLO PRE-SCHOOL \$840,000

San Pablo. A wonderful free-standing pre-school center. One level, 4 spacious classrooms, 3 play yards, kitchen, storage, 2 baths & on-site parking. Anne Van Dyke

One level, 4 spacious classrooms, 3 play yards, kitchen, storage, 2 baths & on-site parking. Anne Van Dyke

Anne Van Dyke

BERKELEY ARTS & CRAFTS \$795,000

Berkeley. An exquisite example of the matchless warmth of the Arts & Crafts style, this 3BR/2.5BA home features an architect-designed eat-in kitchen.

Nacio Browns

HILLER HIGHLANDS \$749,000

Hiller Highlands. A sophisticated & gracious townhouse! 3BR/2.5BA, private patio, & South Bay view! Convenient living, w/great amenities.

Tricia Swift

GLENVIEW BUNGALOW \$529,000

Glenview. Sunny & captivating two bedroom Glenview bungalow. Elegant formal rooms, eat-in kitchen and large back gardens with fruit trees & potential! Linda McClain

Linda McClain

SPACIOUS CONDOMINIUM \$395,000

Berkeley. Very light & spacious condominium w/private deck. Secure building, off street parking & close to downtown, UC campus & BART.

Diane Verducci

PIEDMONT BEAUTY \$4,650,000

Piedmont. Elegant & gracious English style home w/ lovely formal rooms, updated kitchen/family room & beautiful grounds. 6BR/5+BA. Bay views. Mindy Scott

BERKELEY LANDMARK \$3,450,000

Berkeley. An historic landmark home by renowned architect Julia Morgan. 6+BR/5+BA, + carriage house apartment & gardens.

A. Van Dyke & A. Tunney

LASALLE ESTATES \$2,598,000

Oakland. Elegant new traditional in LaSalle Estates (gated) w/panoramic views of the Bay. 5BR/5.5BA, library, family room, expansive terraces. Debraj Dryden

NEW RIDGEMONT HOME \$2,259,000

Oakland. Brand new & stunning. Panoramic Bay views, courtyard w/Koi pool, exquisite designer finishes & elegant open spaces. 4BR/3.5BA.

Debraj Dryden

ONE-OF-A-KIND \$1,995,000

Point Richmond. Deep water dock! Very special architecture! Bay & SF views from every room. Dramatic floorplan. 3BR/2.5BA, office, loft & decks. Bebe McRae

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,350,000

Rockridge. You will have all the room you will ever need in this spacious 6+BR/4+BA upper Rockridge contemporary home.

Mavis Delacroix

PIEDMONT VIEW HOME \$999,000

Piedmont. Enjoy the ease of entertaining in this near-level custom-built 3BR/2BA home located in prestigious Piedmont. Bay views.

Mavis Delacroix

BERKELEY HILLS \$1,695,000

Berkeley. Million dollar views from this sophisticated Claremont Hills contemporary. Terraces open to the view & overlook the garden. 3BR/3BA.

Elizabeth Dickinson

MEDITERRANEAN \$1,475,000

Berkeley. This beautiful Mediterranean in the coveted Thousand Oaks neighborhood offers splendid Bay views, 4BR/3BA, exceptional kitchen/family room. Bebe McRae

ENGLISH COUNTRY \$1,445,000

Berkeley. Berkeley hills English landmark! Fine details with views! Au pair apartment, library, sunroom, brick terraces, 4+BR/4+BA.

F. Keogh/P. Templeton

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,350,000

Rockridge. You will have all the room you will ever need in this spacious 6+BR/4+BA upper Rockridge contemporary home.

Mavis Delacroix

PIEDMONT BEAUTY \$4,650,000

Piedmont. Elegant & gracious English style home w/ lovely formal rooms, updated kitchen/family room & beautiful grounds. 6BR/5+BA. Bay views. Mindy Scott

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WEEKLY SALES**ALAMEDA**

1501 8th St - \$498,000
 1718 Arbor St - \$620,000
 233 Avington Rd - \$664,000
 11 Avondale Ldn - \$842,000
 212 Bannister Ct - \$612,000
 134 Basinside Wy - \$981,000
 2852 Burgner Av - \$556,000
 3454 Capella Ln - \$550,000
 2101 Central Av G - \$330,000
 7 Challen Ct - \$685,000
 3210 Encinal Av - \$560,000
 3334 Fir Av - \$529,000
 1011 Foster St - \$630,000
 1829 Grand St - \$638,000
 401 Haight Av - \$614,000
 11 Kingsbury Ct - \$700,000
 3118 La Campania - \$475,000
 1164 Marianas Ln - \$440,000
 1524 Mozart St - \$371,000
 6 Oak Park Dr 17 - \$554,000
 2707 Otis Dr - \$635,000
 1412 Paru St - \$787,000
 1222 Pearl St - \$580,000
 1001 Post St - \$689,000
 7 Ratto Rd - \$782,000
 1209 Rosewood - \$552,000
 1316 Santa Clara - \$610,000
 2101 Shoreline 240 - \$485,000
 1321 Webster D317 - \$320,000

ALBANY

941 Evelyn Av - \$405,000
 1151 Garfield Av - \$520,000
 925 Hillside Av - \$552,000
 637 Madison St - \$580,000
 535 Pierce St 3114 - \$417,000

BERKELEY

2520 10th St - \$250,000
 2227 7th St - \$622,000
 1013 Allston Wy - \$440,000
 1490 Arch St - \$945,000
 1834 Blake St B - \$500,000
 2235 Browning St - \$701,000
 1163 Camelot St - \$630,000
 1275 Campus Dr - \$760,000
 840 Contra Costa - \$1,325,000
 1611 Cornell Av - \$520,000
 3009 Deakin St - \$720,000
 157 El Camino Real - \$795,000
 924 Fresno Av - \$631,000
 1931 Grant St - \$490,000
 1070 Grizzly Peak - \$755,000
 931 Grizzly Peak - \$650,000
 10 Hillcrest Ct - \$1,455,000
 2937 Linden Av - \$927,500
 2410 Parker St - \$908,000
 1301 Peralta Av - \$670,000
 1230 Queens Rd - \$715,000
 632 San Luis Rd - \$720,000
 2230 Virginia St - \$960,000
 2614 Warring St - \$488,000
 1908 Yolo Av - \$905,000

EL CERRITO

1300 Elm St - \$425,000
 7800 Eureka Av - \$656,000
 1212 Everett St - \$525,000
 6754 Glen Mawr - \$582,000
 1539 Kearney St - \$570,000
 810 Lexington Av - \$690,000
 1751 Liberty St 206 - \$320,000
 934 Liberty St - \$900,000
 949 Norwell St - \$450,000

EL SOBRANTE

5566 Deer Run Dr - \$508,000
 623 El Cerro Dr - \$440,000
 630 El Cerro Dr - \$410,000
 1158 Kelvin Rd - \$473,000
 26 Lupine Ct - \$375,000
 3537 Mifflin Av - \$300,000
 5311 Ridgeview B11 - \$194,500
 5313 Ridgeview - \$255,000
 329 Shirley Vista St - \$412,000
 3801 Valley Ln - \$410,000

EMERYVILLE

6 Admiral A273 - \$216,000
 7 Captain C216 - \$239,000

KENSINGTON

317 Colusa Av - \$650,000
 675 Oberlin Av - \$800,000
 107 York Av - \$718,000

1700 101st Av - \$350,000
 1516 102nd Av - \$350,000
 1822 104th Av - \$308,000
 507 105th Av - \$300,000
 655 12th St 205 - \$422,500
 655 12th St 409 - \$339,500
 655 12th St 410 - \$311,000
 655 12th St 412 - \$390,000
 2438 21st Av - \$345,000
 426 27th St 104B - \$465,000
 426 27th St 201B - \$475,000

OAKLAND

6930 Wilson Wy - \$610,000

737 2nd St 210 - \$270,000
 424 2nd St - \$820,000
 2173 39th Av - \$390,000
 1719 50th Av - \$470,000
 1448 52nd Av - \$318,000
 1043 54th St - \$425,000
 2914 55th Av - \$300,000
 641 61st St - \$410,000
 687 61st St - \$570,000
 2126 62nd Av - \$193,000
 2068 64th Av - \$288,000
 2454 67th Av - \$280,000
 1042 72nd Av - \$276,500
 3569 72nd Av - \$480,000
 1233 73rd St - \$245,000
 2950 75th Av - \$500,000
 1511 77th Av - \$245,500
 1565 77th Av - \$325,000
 1447 84th Av - \$270,000
 1349 89th Av - \$288,000
 1931 8th Av - \$650,000
 2476 94th Av - \$320,000
 6501 Aitken Dr - \$980,000
 90 Anair Wy - \$310,000
 11056 Apricot St - \$299,000
 7883 Arthur St - \$295,000
 278 Athol Av - \$438,000
 5431 Bancroft - \$556,000
 1367 Barrows Rd - \$625,000
 6492 Benvenue 2 - \$635,000
 28 Brinnall Hill - \$92,000
 8225 Birch St - \$278,500
 3436 Boston Av - \$710,000
 5964 Buena Vista - \$1,169,000
 9429 C St - \$375,000
 220 Caldecott 118 - \$427,500

See SALES, Page B16

Home buying solution**VINTAGE MORTGAGE**

Are you ready for a smart financial solution to home buying? Do you want the freedom of homeownership but just don't know where to start? Begin by learning about the home buying process. Attend "The Home Buying Solutions Seminar" for information on making the right choices. This free class is from 10 a.m. to noon. Sat., the San Leandro. Find solutions to your buying questions, buying for the first move-up.

Bring your guest. To register, call or pre-register online at 888-829-0071.

CASTLE ROCK REAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT OF HOMES & APARTMENTS

528-9292

DAVID RATOOSH / KEITH CARROLL

PARKMONT MANSION

OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 29 & SEPTEMBER 5, 2004



6165 Ascot Drive

Magnificent whimsical Tudor designed by noted architect. Exquisite "Old World" details include exposed beamed ceilings, fireplaces and handcrafted casework. A stunning new kitchen in San Francisco/Golden Gate views complete this unique home.

Offered at \$895,000

Steven Biasatti
Senior Sales Consultant
(510) 338-1379

The GRUBB Co.

950 Charado Road, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Beautifully updated 1930's traditional home in the prestigious and convenient Claremont neighborhood! Two bedrooms, one and one-half bath, study, den, formal dining room, and gourmet kitchen. In exceptional condition! Wonderful gardens! A rare jewel! Offered at \$865,000

BEBE MCRAE

OFFICE: 652.2133/415
 bmcrae@grubbc.com
 GRUBBCO.COM

LaSalle

MORTGAGE BROKER / MORTGAGE BANKER

FINANCIAL SERVICES



ROGER SMITH

510.339.4300

rsmith@lasallefinance.com

LaSalleFinance.com

**SNEAK PREVIEW****OAKLAND'S NEW LAKESIDE LANDMARK****CONDOMINIUM HOMES NOW SELLING**

View from The Essex on Lake Merritt



The Essex at One Lakeside Drive towers above Oakland's spectacular Lake Merritt. An award-winning architectural landmark directly on the water. Blocks from BART. Minutes from the Bay Bridge. With features and finishes befitting the finest condominium homes.

The Essex offers exceptional luxury, convenience and value. With stunning views of the city, lake and East Bay hills. Junior one-bedroom, one-bedroom and two-bedroom residences from the low \$300,000s. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. A Lennar/Emerald community.

510.625.1111 | www.essexlakemerritt.com



Newspapers: Your number one source for East Bay real estate information.

1106 Oakland Avenue, Piedmont

Plan for your future in this lovely Piedmont traditional home. The wonderful sun porch entry leads you to the living room with hardwood floors, wainscoting & a fireplace, formal dining room, and eat-in kitchen. Split-level stairs to three bedrooms and one and a half baths. Entertain on your sunny patio and beautiful terraced garden.

Offered at \$679,000

Bob Nelson
(510) 338-1345



Carolyn Nelson
(510) 338-1345



New Residential Central Park

OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2-5PM

10801 Lochard Street, Oakland

In the Chabot Park area of the Piedmont Hills, this beautiful 3+BR/3BA updated ranch house is situated on approximately 1/2 acre of level, landscaped grounds. The indoor/outdoor living is fantastic! With French doors from almost every room, you & your guests can enjoy sitting on the deck or visiting under the covered patio, among the lovely yard, adorned with mature trees, lawns & a magnificent Oak tree.

Offered at \$839,000

Vicki Woodhead
SENIOR SALES ASSOCIATE . (510) 338-1334



New Montealto Listed

OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2-4:30PM



1720 Alhambra Lane

Contemporary three bedroom, two and a half bath home on oversized lot in a private cul-de-sac setting. Formal dining room, two decks, master suite with spa and sauna.

Offered at \$639,000



CHUCK CORWIN
(510) 338-1353



TERRI LEE
 李麗珠
 814-4840 or
 810-6735 pg
 Harbor Bay Realty
TRUST A PROFESSIONAL WHO CARES!

ALAMEDA

2017 EAGLE AVE.
Outstanding Elegant Duplex - Great opportunity owner/investor!
OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4 PM \$799,000

BRAND NEW LISTING
2810 BAYVIEW DRIVE
Enchanting view of the Bay from this rare single level 3 bdrm, 2 bath home! Hardwood floors, Ranch tankless water heater.
OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4 PM \$618,000

BRAND NEW LISTING
14652 OUTRIGGER DRIVE
Lovely unit at Marina Seagate, 2 bdrm, 2 bath home with vaulted ceilings, new carpet, freshly painted, new kitchen! Two car garages
OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4 PM \$350,000

SAN LEANDRO
15639 ANCHORAGE COURT
Bright & Beautiful Family Home in the Heron Bay Development 4 bdrms/2.5 baths
PENDING Offered at \$585,000

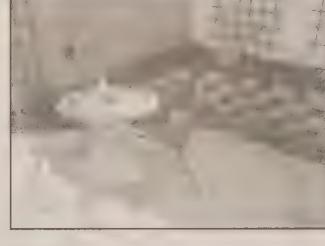
14412 SEAGATE DRIVE
Very Large One Bedroom/One Bathroom Condo at Marina Seagate. One Garage Space/One Carport
PENDING \$319,000

14003 SEAGATE DRIVE
3 Bdrm/2.5 Bath - Largest model at Marina Seagate. 2-car Garage attached
PENDING \$465,000

CASTRO VALLEY
4419 EWING ROAD
4 Bedrooms/Three and a Half Bathrooms near Lake Chabot/Elegant Single Level. Home w/2 Carports Spacious Attached 2 Car Garage. Three Fireplaces. Very Large Formal Dining Room. Air-conditioning. Walk-in Closets. Granite Counters, marble bathrooms, & a Fabulous Great Room w/built ins. Approx 3500sf - Lot Size Aprox 14,920sf
OPEN SUN 1-4 PM \$975,000

Grand Lake

OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 29TH, 2-4:30PM



Offered at \$299,000

Lorri Rosenberg Arazi
Broker Associate
(510) 338-1330
www.LorriArazi.com



195 SANTA CLARA #5

Exceptional 1 bedroom, 1 bath condominium has its own private garden/patio area! There is a wood-burning fireplace in the sunken, oversized living room, a stackable washer/dryer in the spacious bath room, a deck with extra storage, and a detached, one-car garage! The Grand Lake/Lakeshore and Piedmont Avenue shopping districts are nearby, as is the historic Oakland Rose Garden and spectacular Lake Merritt!

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

www.pacunion.com

Open Sunday

Open Sunday

Open Sunday

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,649,500
1616 VISTA AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Stunning 2002 contemporary. Award winning architect Robert Klein. 4BR/3.5BA. Tall ceilings, spa-moms, luxury finishes, Bay Views. Stunng new kitchen, pane SF/GG. Nancy Noman x1318

MONTCLAIR \$1,095,000
1101 WESTOVER DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Stunning 4+BR/3BA contemporary. Soaring ceilings, luxury master, family room, decks, hot tub, fabu-lous Nancy Noman x1373

PIEDMONT PINES \$895,000
1101 ASCOT DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Elegant Tudor by noted architect W.R. and exquisite "Old World" details. Exquisite beamed ceilings, handcrafted case-ware. Stunng new kitchen, pane SF/GG. Jeffrey Himmel x1307

PIEDMONT PARK \$839,000
1101 LOCHARD ST. (Open 2-5)
Updated "Mini Estate" in the Piedmont Hills. 3BR/3 BA, master retreat, family room, eat-in remodeled kitchen and grounds. Vicki Woodhead x1334

MONTCLAIR \$769,000
1101 GUNN DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Remodeled home in the Montclair setting. Au pair w/ entry & kitchen, new decks, great area. Donna Costella x1355

PIEDMONT \$679,000
1106 OAKLAND AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Lovely 3BR/1.5 BA traditional home. Wonderfully terraced garden & hardwood floors. Bob & Carolyn Nelson x1345

MONTCLAIR \$639,000
1720 ALHAMBRA LN. (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! Contemporary 3BR/2.5BA home on oversized lot in a private cul-de-sac setting. Formal dining room, 2 decks, master w/ spa & sauna. Chuck Corwin x1353

EAST LAKE \$349,000
2018 11TH AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
This darling 2BR/1.5BA 1910 wood Craftsman bungalow features formal dining room, working fireplace, eat-in-kitchen. Cindy Houts x1364

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$2,850,000
Stately Normandy on privately situated approximately 2/3 acre. Large main house, guest cottage, conservatory. Views. 4BR/4.5BA. David Ichikawa x1331.

Your San Francisco Bay Area Real Estate Resource



GRAND LAKE \$299,000
195 SANTA CLARA #5 (Open 2-4:30)
Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Private patio, deck, fireplace, in-unit laundry, one-car garage. Lorri Arazi x1330

MONTCLAIR \$1,525,000
17044 BROADWAY TERR. (Open 2-4:30)
Spectacular sunsets & 3-bridge views. Dramatic 4+BR/4.5BA contemporary. Designer kitchen, library, secluded courtyard. Fritz Hochfellner x1348

By Appointment

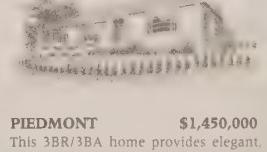
BERKELEY \$2,950,000
Stunning 4+BR/4BA contemporary in spectacular setting. Extensively remodeled. Floor to ceiling windows. A work of art! Nancy Noman x1373



PIEDMONT \$1,450,000
This 3BR/3BA home provides elegant, large rooms, easy indoor, outdoor living, lovely views, & lots of storage. Debi Fitzgerrell x1306

HILLER HIGHLANDS \$1,495,000

This 5BR/3BA has sensational panoramic views of San Francisco and the Bay from this fabulous all level sun drenched home! Dee Knowland x1318



PIEDMONT \$1,450,000
This 3BR/3BA home provides elegant, large rooms, easy indoor, outdoor living, lovely views, & lots of storage. Debi Fitzgerrell x1306

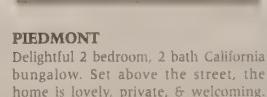
ROCKRIDGE \$995,000
Charming Bay View 3+BR/2BA near BART. Large family room w/level out patio, separate dining & breakfast rooms, view balcony off master. Leslie Avant x1341



ADAMS POINT \$329,000
Spacious light filled 2BR/2BA condo. Stylishly updated throughout. Nice patio off living room, pool, many extras, convenient to BART & commute. Leslie Avant x1341



PIEDMONT \$1,450,000
Delightful 2 bedroom, 2 bath California bungalow. Set above the street, the home is lovely, private, & welcoming. Updated kitchen & bath, formal dining room. Debi Fitzgerrell x1306



Coming Soon

510.339.6460

1900 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA

House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section first.

GRUBB Co.



844 Mountain Boulevard, Montclair

RECENTLY SOLD.

Originally offered at \$719,000

I represented the Buyers.



ERIKA CELESTRE

Office: 510.339.0400/252
ecellestre@grubbc.com
GRUBBCO.COM

Visit GRUBBCO.COM for
Photo Tours of current listings.

**MONTCLAIR • BRAND NEW LISTING
OPEN SUNDAY AUG. 29 • 1-5:00 PM**

275 Wild Currant Way • Private Retreat close to the Village

Offered at \$689,000

A bit of Tuscany in Berkeley with magnificent views of the San Francisco skyline, Golden Gate Bridge, Marin to Mt. Tam & situated near the Claremont Hotel, this beautifully crafted 2-story Mediterranean-style home, with its tile roof, French doors, and enchanting courtyard, designed by Thomas Church, is situated on .24 ac of wonderfully landscaped grounds with mature oak trees. There are 4 BDRMS, 4 BTHS which includes a luxurious master br & marble bath suite with a large private terrace. A spacious eat-in kitchen, formal dining rm, large liv rm w/irpls. A light, bright jewel!

Offered at \$689,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723
View photos at: donnaconroy.com

COLDWELL BANKER

743 Longridge Road

A bit of Tuscany in Berkeley with magnificent views of the San Francisco skyline, Golden Gate Bridge, Marin to Mt. Tam & situated near the Claremont Hotel, this beautifully crafted 2-story Mediterranean-style home, with its tile roof, French doors, and enchanting courtyard, designed by Thomas Church, is situated on .24 ac of wonderfully landscaped grounds with mature oak trees. There are 4 BDRMS, 4 BTHS which includes a luxurious master br & marble bath suite with a large private terrace. A spacious eat-in kitchen, formal dining rm, large liv rm w/irpls. A light, bright jewel!

www.discriminatinghomes.com

\$1,950,000

Call to preview



Jerilynn Babington

925-253-4601
510-547-1615

JUST SOLD



743 Longridge Road

Classic Crocker Highlands traditional with exceptional architectural detailing & woodwork

4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, remodeled kitchen, home office, patio & garden. A gem

Offered at \$1,165,000



Dian Hymer, CRS

Associate Broker
#1 Agent Oakland/Piedmont Office
510-339-4777
Photo Tours At: dianhymer.com



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

COLDWELL BANKER

www.CaliforniaMoves.com

Berkeley 510.486.1495 • Oakland 510.339.4700

BY APPOINTMENT

BY APPOINTMENT

OPEN HOUSES

OPEN HOUSES

OPEN HOUSES

\$7,250,000
Mansion. 9 BR 4.5 BA This
is listed on the California
Real Registry. The estate includes
a house w. 3BR/3BA, 2 guest
rooms & tennis court.
Barbara Marienthal

510.486.1495

\$5,785,000
5+ ba spectacular French
Beautifuly restored, bay
masterpiece
510.339.4700

\$1,395,000
Rockridge. 4 BR 3.5 BA Classic
fabulous bay views, large
Old World charm &
amenities, rec room, custom
den, plus rooms.
510.339.4700

\$1,100,000
Richmond District
art deco duplex, both units
100% BA with formal dining room
"Mont" Robinson 510.339.4700

\$749,000
Duplex
uses in one! Owner's unit is
full w/large kit. Upstairs is 3BR 1
bed, period details &
enclosed yard.
510.339.4700

Marina Bay, Richmond \$554,900
Live by the Bay! 3 BR 2.5 BA This
home features a loft, new paint, frplc,
Nr Bart & shps. Gated comm
w/pool, 2 car garage.
Gregg Lustig 510.486.1495

Alameda \$499,000
2 BR 1 BA Spacious 2/1 Fernside
Bungalow on lg. corner lot. Hardwood
floors, built-ins & updated kit.
Bonnie Ross & Preston Grant
510.339.4700

Berkeley \$379,000
2 BR 1 BA Stylish condo near Cal. Ikaea
kitchen, Pergo flrs, updt bath. Pvt
patio. Great location. Secure parking.
Diana Kay 510.486.1495

San Pablo Proper \$262,000
Immaculate Condo! 2 BR 2 BA
Located in quiet neighborhood. New
carpet, new paint, climate control, and
alarm system.
Benji Phillips 510.486.1495

Berkeley \$1,650,000
1020 Keeler Sun 2 - 4
6 BR 5.5 BA "Beaux-Arts" villa
w/elegant apt in magic garden
w/fountains, gazebo, cottage & roses.
Jeanne McHugh 510.486.1495

Berkeley \$495,000
1906 Chestnut Sun 2 - 4
2 BR 1 BA Major renovation! Totaly
wired. Lrg detached office/art studio,
formal DR, lndscaping.
Bobbie Giarratana 510.486.1495

Oakland \$1,850,000
6343 Skyline Blvd. Sun 2 - 4
4 BR 3.5 BA Exciting home by Art
Busse. 3 Lvls in a beautiful natural
setting w/bay views.
Kim & Barbara Marienthal
510.486.1495

Claremont \$1,540,000
49 Vicente Pl. Sun 2 - 4:30
5 BR 4.5 BA Mediterranean Villa.
Great location! Bay views! 2yrs. new,
formal LR/DR, Family room.
Ellen Lancaster 510.339.4700

Oakland Hills \$1,075,000
4700 Sherland Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 4.5 BA New construction,
contemp. design, top of the line
finishes. Great flr pln, gourmet kit.
Jeff Thomas 510.339.4700

Rockridge \$720,000
150 Florence Ave. Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2 BA Delightful mid-century w/n
Bay vu, all level living. Hwd flrs, frplc,
lengthy rear patio.
Nancy Dickey 510.339.4700

Montclair \$689,000
7575 Wild Currant Way Sun 1 - 5
3 BR 2 BA Enchanting retreat!
Updated baths, updated kitchen with
deck, wonderful landscaped yd
WOW!
Donna Conroy 510.339.4700

Redwood Heights \$729,000
4075 Norton Ave. Sun 2 - 5
4 BR 2.5 BA Enjoy the huge yard and
expansive Bay Bridge & City views
from this well maintained home
Terry Kulka 510.339.4700

Lincoln Heights \$479,000
4192 Maple Ave. Sun 2 - 5
2 BR 1 BA Cottage w/bay & wooded
vus. 1 lvl, opn flr pln, hwd flrs, fp, fncd
yrd, gar. It is Wonderful!
Rachel Baller 510.339.4700

OPEN HOUSES



2770 Argyle Sat/Sun 1 - 5
3 BR 3 BA Custom! High end finishes,
custom cabinetry, hwd floor possible
au-pair unit downstairs.
Julie Joyce & Terry Anthony
510.339.4700

Redwood Heights \$729,000
4075 Norton Ave. Sun 2 - 5
4 BR 2.5 BA Enjoy the huge yard and
expansive Bay Bridge & City views
from this well maintained home
Terry Kulka 510.339.4700

Lincoln Heights \$479,000
4192 Maple Ave. Sun 2 - 5
2 BR 1 BA Cottage w/bay & wooded
vus. 1 lvl, opn flr pln, hwd flrs, fp, fncd
yrd, gar. It is Wonderful!
Rachel Baller 510.339.4700

Oakland \$394,000
323 Monte Vista #107 Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 2 BA Large condo, DR area eat-in
kit oversized deck w/ access to KIT,
LR, MBS. 1st floor unit
Norman Robinow 510.339.4700

Richmond North East \$335,000
566 24th St. Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2 BA New kitchen, partially
updated baths. New landscaping
lovely!
Barbara Hardacre 510.339.4700

Oakland \$190,000
848 E. 15th St., Unit B Sun 2 - 4
1 BR 1 BA This unit features a
remodeled kitchen and hwd flrs.
Must see!
Casey Asche 510.486.1495

LOTS

Montclair \$399,000
Bay view homesite. Rare lvl- dslp. on
sought-after Jewel Ct. Montclair's new
development!
Peter & Ellen Nicolopoulos
510.339.4700



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price... GUARANTEED.

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Call today for your Free
Pre-approval!**

Financing provided by First American Bank. *Subject to applicable laws. **Subject to applicable laws. Market credit and property approval required.

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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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6137 La Salle Avenue, Oakland

Help fight illiteracy. Read with your children.

**VIEWPOINT
REAL ESTATE**



presented by

Vickie Robinson and Aleso Gourhan

**HOME WARRANTIES:
TO BUY OR NOT TO BUY**

Home warranties cover a home's major operating systems typically for one year after the home's sale is closed. Items covered include plumbing, heating and electrical systems, most built-in appliances, and water heaters. Optional coverage is available in some plans to include such items as air conditioners, pool equipment, washer-dryers and refrigerators.

This form of coverage has been steadily increasing in popularity over the past couple of decades. The proportion of homes covered by a warranty plan following its sale has been climbing at points throughout the country.

We attribute the strong acceptance of home warranties in the marketplace to the fact that warranties are no longer perceived as just 'another closing cost.' In fact, a warranty contract is now recognized as a valuable product that helps protect the consumer's budget while providing a needed convenience in our crowded lives.

Homebuyers utilize their home warranty protection an average of twice during the first year, and over 50 percent of buyers request extended coverage beyond the first year, according to home warranty industry reports. In addition to saving money in the event of a malfunctioning mechanical item in the home, warranties are often effective in preventing litigation when problems surface.

Vickie Robinson and Aleso Gourhan are Bay Area natives and both are top producers for Prudential California Realty. For professional assistance with all aspects of buying or selling residential real estate, call them at 510-464-1207.

Prudential
California Realty

www.oaklandpiedmont.com

**Huge Lot With Many Fruit Trees,
Gardens And 2 Sheds
URBAN FARMER WANTED**



14873 LARK STREET, SAN LEANDRO

1945 3 bedroom 2 bath home with hardwood flooring, lots of windows and light. In addition, it is on a great street. Easy access to freeway or BART. Have the feeling of living in an urban area, but have your own farm or oasis. Many fruit trees, several areas for flowers or vegetable gardens. A really rare property. In addition to all this, there is a fireplace, and family room.

\$489,000

Camille Rogers Office: 510-845-0211
V/M: 510-869-2638

Prudential
California Realty



RECENT SALE



6020 Colby Street

Originally Offered at \$595,000

Represented Seller

Prudential
California Realty

Recent Listing

I recently represented the seller of this 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom home in Rockridge.

If you are thinking of buying or selling a home please call me for a consultation.

Jeff Roberts
Clarendon Office
Prudential California Realty
510.466.5446
Jeff.Roberts@prurealty.com



JUST SOLD

**115 Mesa Avenue
Piedmont**

Originally Offered at \$1,250,000

I represented the buyer in a multiple offer situation.

If you would like me to represent you, please call today!

Prudential
California Realty

Nancy Hinkley, Realtor
Office: 510.428.0900
Voice Mail: 510.433.2842
nancy.hinkley@prurealty.com
342 Highland Ave., Piedmont



MAXWELL PARK



2854 Modesto Avenue
Offered at \$424,900

Prudential
California Realty

John Forrest Bell
510/834-2010 Office
510/287-9856 VM
510/305-4014 Cell

CROCKER HIGHLAND



New Listing
1055 Clarendon Crescent
Offered at \$938,000

Prudential
California Realty

Open House
Sunday, Aug. 29, 2 to 5 p.m.

Located on a desirable street with a nice bright and warm Crocker Highlands home. The timeless beauty of the 1920s. High ceilings, charming breakfast room, 4+ bedrooms, gleaming matchstick hardwood floors, and a garden for outdoor enjoyment.

Visit www.DoloresThom.com
For photos & more information and to view all active East Bay listings

Dolores Thom
Fine Homes Specialist
510/834-2010 Office
510/835-6080 VM
510/290-1218 Cell

2554 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way,
Berkeley CA 94704
(510) 848-2724

www.globalnet.com

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 PM



1650 Parker Street, Berkeley \$469,500

- * Wonderful two bedroom home in desirable Berkeley area.
- * Formal Dining Room & Laundry Room.
- * Garage with interior access.
- * Semi-finished basement.
- * Close to BART, UC Berkeley and walking distance to Downtown Berkeley.

BERKELEY LIVING IN



Commercial w/4 retail stores in large corner lot w/ high VISIBILITY & high TRAFFIC count.

Plenty of off street parking. Call on this wonder!

N. OAKLAND \$ 850,000



7 WELL-KEPT UNITS ON A LARGE LOT.
1-3BD/1.5BA, 4-2BD/1BA,
2-1BD/1BA.

New roof and recently upgraded painting. Parking in rear.

OAKLAND \$ 949,000 NO EXCHANGE NEEDED !!!



OAKLAND \$249,000 NEW LISTING!! 2-BD/1BA, Fixer Upper. Call for more information.

FREMONT \$149,000 Business Opportunity! Restaurant Fremont. Location CALL!!!

NAKAMURA

Hayward

PUURFECT!!

HAYWARD \$ 490,000

A Home with Million-Dollar view

Family room with double sliding doors to garden.

Gigantic master suite with fireplace

beautiful bath and huge walk-in.

Outdoor spa under the stars!

And so much more....

EL CERRITO \$ 849,500

Near Whole Foods. Close to U.C.

Berkeley & Ashby BART

Two Building Combination.

2-unit Front building w/2-3BD flats.

4-unit building in rear w/2x2BD &

2x1BD units.

BERKELEY \$ 1,150,000

Paradise is waiting for you!

Quiet, Private & Scenic....

Lots in beautiful Guerneville

Close to the Bay Area, but feels like you're miles away.

Call!!!

GUERNEVILLE \$ 50,000

BUNGALOW STYLE HOME THAT SHOWS WELL!

Spacious 2 Bedrooms and 1 Bath

Why buy a condo ???

Owner very motivated

MUST SELL!!!

OAKLAND \$ 330,000

REMOVED

OAKLAND \$ 249,000

MADE ANY OFFER?

OAKLAND \$ 249,000

And so much more...



6 Kingston Road, Kensington
Offered at \$639,000

Prudential
California Realty

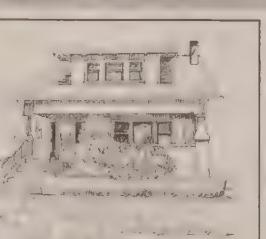
Sunday Open House,
August 29th 1-5pm

This charming Kensington traditional is in quiet, tranquil street. The main floor formal living room with fireplace, formal dining room, and a wonderful kitchen. An inviting garden through French doors off the dining room complement this house.

Upstairs are 2 bedrooms and a full bath. Includes a bonus room, laundry, and enclosed sunroom. Very near to the Arlington Shop.

Roberta Ousterman
Prudential CA Realty
Piedmont Office
510.428.0900 • 510.919.3116

PRICE REDUCE



1322 Everett Avenue, Oakland

Big Beautiful Craftsman

Offered at \$629,000

Prudential
California Realty

Open Sunday
2 to 4 pm

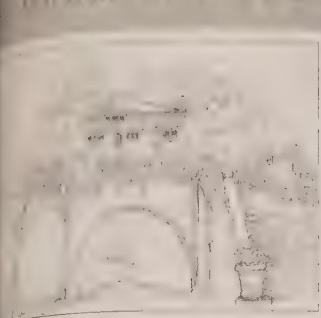
It's only one block to Glenview shops and restaurants from this Handsome Craftsman. It has 4 bedrooms and 2 baths. Other include a great fireplace in the living room, dining room and an enclosed sunroom. Friends in the sweet backyard garden, lovely hardwood floors, a one car garage and a nice big front porch from new neighbors!

Mark Hardwicke
Berkley Residential Office
Prudential California Realty
510.888.1527
mark.hardwicke@prurealty.com

FOR OVER 50 YEARS, OUR CLIENTS' SUCCESS HAS BEEN OUR SUCCESS!

Looking for a new home? Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide starting on B16.

and Hill presented



1998 Marin, Berkeley
Offered at \$699,000

Prudential
California Realty

The House at the top of the Tunnel... A versatile house which can be used as a 3 bdrm 3 bath house or a 2 bedroom 2 bath house with a legal rental unit. Sunday open house 8-29-04 2-5.

Candice Economides and David Hill
Direct 868-1578
Candice cell 914-2927 David Cell 847-2398
Prudential California Realty
2095 Rose Street, Berkeley 94709



Grass Valley Area!
4929 Stacy Street, Oakland

3 bedrooms & 2 baths including master suite. Level home. Wheelchair access. Hardwood floors, fireplace, double garage, landscaped front & back yards, fresh paint in & out.

Open Sunday 2-4:30
Offered at \$569,000

Please call me for your property evaluation or to view my marketing plan.



Dollie Henson

(510) 409-4230, Montclair Office
Website: www.prurealty.com/dolliehenson

Prudential
California Realty

JUST LISTED

Open Sunday 1-5

5839 Yale Ave., Richmond View
The Closest Thing to New Custom Construction
Offered at \$649,000

- 300 s.f. Gourmet Kitchen With Center Island, Granite Counters, Cherry Wood Cabinets, Stainless Steel Appliances
- Large Living Room With Italian Tile Fireplace And New Brazilian Cherry Wood Floors
- 2 Master Bedrooms With Walk-in Closets And Sliding Doors To Deck And Patio Areas
- 2 1/2 Baths With Custom Cabinets And Tile
- Dual-pane Windows
- Large Private Yard With Lawn
- Much More

Ed Marshall
Montclair Office
Prudential California Realty
(510) 530-4111
(510) 604-2095
edmarshall@yahoo.com



Prudential
California Realty

PIEDMONT

Open Sunday from 2 to 5
A beautiful two story Craftsman conveniently located near shops, transportation, and restaurants.

This period Craftsman has four bedrooms and one and a half baths. Interior access to basement storage and garage. Delightful and secluded fenced back yard. Beach Elementary is a short walk away.

Anthony Riggins
Piedmont Office
510.428.0900
www.anthonyriggins.com

Piedmont Craftsman
1327 Grand Avenue, Piedmont
Offered at \$969,000

Prudential
California Realty



Prudential
California Realty

FEATURED HOMES



Sale Masterpiece! \$4,500,000
Incredible 5+bridge views, 6+BR/3.5BA,
4+BA, huge master suite, home theater,
Kith Glass, Sheila Sabine
(510) 428-0900



OPEN Sunday 2-5 \$938,000
1055 Clarendon Crescent, Crocker Highlands, Oakland. 4+BR/3BA, HWF, garden & view. Dolores Thom
(510) 834-2010



Coming Soon
Upper Rockridge Tudor 2+BR w/separate apt. w/fireplace.
Terry Jue
(510) 868-1471



Charming
Oakland. Charming bungalow, 2BD/1BA, large yard.
Ted Normart
(510) 845-0211



Lake Merritt Luxury \$425,000
Oakland. Remodeled spacious 2BR/2BA apt. over 1600 s.f. 24-hr. Sec. att. plkg. Caroline Slotemaker-de-Bruine
(510) 868-1454

Oakland

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,375,000
100 Marin Road. Brand-new 5BR/3.5BA construction w/chef's kitchen.
C. Ross
(510) 339-9290

OPEN Sunday 1-4 \$1,280,000
#312, Penthouse loft w/decks & must see.
Bredhina
(510) 868-1558

OPEN Sunday 2-5 \$669,000
Westover Dr. Wonderful hilltop contemporary 3BR/3.5BA family rm.
Barb Hopper
(510) 845-0211

OPEN Sunday 2-4 \$629,000
#207, Price reduced on this big beauty!
DR. PP.
Hartwick
(510) 501-0713

OPEN Sunday 2-4 \$595,000
Mirage Ave. Piedmont/Oakland border. 2BA DR. P.
Ryan
(510) 845-0211

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$549,000
St-North Oakland. Refurbished
Randal
(510) 339-9290

OPEN Sunday 2-5 \$489,000
3rd st Dr. 3+BR/2BA. Nicely remodeled views of the bay.
Porter
(510) 834-2010

OPEN Sunday 2-5 \$420,000
Presto Ave. #2204. 1BR/1BA Pristine
amenities.
Pleasant
(510) 868-1565

OPEN Sunday 2-5 \$424,900
Presto 2BR, FDR, lg kit. & breakfast
4 firs. Ig yd wrigs.
Porter
(510) 834-2010

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$419,000
Presto Ave. Charming 2BR/2BA
w/great kitchen and yard.
(510) 339-9290

Oakland

OPEN Sunday 2-4 \$395,000
1661 16th St. 3BR/2BA spacious w/in-law, updated. Fenced yard, close to BART & SF.
Cynthia Johnson
(510) 868-1549

OPEN Sunday 1-4 \$269,000
645 Chetwood #106. 1BR corner unit in superb condition.
Vickie/Aleso
(510) 428-0900

OPEN Sunday 1-4 \$259,000
3 Embarcadero #142. 1BR/1BA large Balcony, marina view, Jack London.
Joan Morrow
(510) 604-7464

OPEN Sunday
3674 Green Acre Rd. Gorgeous 5BR/3BA large home w/legal in-law.
Anna Li
(510) 527-9800

Berkeley/Albany

Claremont Maybeck \$1,799,000
Elegant 1915 Maybeck on beautiful st. Spacious rms & in-laws 5BR/3BA.
Julie Lehman
(510) 845-0211

Coming Soon \$715,000
Wonderful 4BR/3BA home in Albany. Total rebuilt in 1992, sweet back yard.
Wendy T. Louie
(510) 851-9888

OPEN Sunday 2-5 \$699,000
511 Stannage Ave. 3+BR/2BA Craftsman with cottage in back yard.
Sycheta Dhopela
(510) 868-1511

OPEN Sunday 1-5 \$479,000
3115 Wheeler, Berkeley. Charming 2+BR/1.5BA
Berkeley bungalow. 1st open!
Doug Fuller
(510) 339-9290

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Berkeley/Albany

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$465,000
638 Evelyn Ave., Albany. Light & cozy 2BR/1BA. Great fpl, great location & school.
Wendy T. Louie
(510) 851-9888

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$450,000
1253 Garrison St., Berkeley. 3BR/1BA fam rm, large yard.
Terri E. Ingram
(510) 834-2010

Contra Costa County

OPEN Sunday 1-5 \$639,000
6 Kingston Rd., Kensington. Charming traditional level in.
Roberta Ousterman
(510) 428-0900

OPEN Sunday 1-4 \$495,000
5852 Robinhood, El Sobrante. Charming 4BR/2BA. Lg lot, crkside setting. A must see.
John Chaney
(510) 527-9800

Charming \$380,000
Richmond. 3BD/1.5BA. Charming, well-maintained home.
Carole Knowles
(510) 868-1550

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EL CERRITO
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GRAND LAKE
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MONTCLAIR
510-339-9290

PIEDMONT
510-428-0900

First Time

FROM PAGE B5

Hunt for the right house.

For any project you need a good set of tools. For us it was an e-mail account, a three-ring binder, a notepad and a highlighter. At the start of the week, Kirk would send a list of houses to our e-mail account.

Most had pictures and the technical information. After viewing the houses, we told Kirk which ones we liked and wanted to see. I would then print out the selections and put them in the three-ring binder.

The binder became our shopping blueprint so we could move from one house to the next. Con-

sidering that you could see up to a half-dozen houses in one day, it is helpful to take a few notes while touring each home.

We helped in the house-hunting process by driving by homes that were up for sale. We jotted down the addresses and telephone numbers of the real estate companies. We fed this information to Kirk and he would set up appointments.

The trick to efficient house hunting is to control the process. You have to make the decision whether you want to see a home or how long you want to tour one.

The real estate agent can offer suggestions or point out different considerations, such as water damage on the basement wall, but you

are in charge.

After a few weeks you will become pros at house hunting and know within the first 10 minutes whether the home you entered might be right for you. If it's not, don't spend a lot of time there. Eliminate it and move on.

Narrow the choices.

After five intense weeks of searching, narrowed the field to two houses — one we had walked through three times and another we walked through once.

The first house was in an excellent location, an important consideration because we knew that in about five years we will be selling it again. Buying a house is as much a business decision as an emo-

tional one.

The only drawbacks were the small master bedroom and an odd little feeling in both our stomachs that the house is great but it may not be us.

The other house's only drawback, we were told, was that the property was too close to 8 Mile and that location might hurt our chances of getting a quick sale when it came time to resell the

See FIRST TIME, Page B13

"THINKING ABOUT SELLING?"
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NEW LISTING

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6525 Swainland Road, Montclair

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Built in 1993, this sophisticated contemporary was designed to capture the spectacular views of San Francisco and its two bridges. Privately situated on approximately 1/3 acre with level front and side gardens, this five bedroom, three and one half bath home includes an artist's studio and a separate one bedroom apartment.

Offered at \$1,575,000

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**BERKELEY HILLS
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**510.524.9888
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525 Colusa, Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

This spacious, well-maintained Mediterranean-style home offers 4 bdrms, 2 baths plus full 1 bdrm, 1 bath au-pair on a deep 7500 sq. ft. landscaped lot. Set back from the street behind acacia and oak trees and large boulder, this home offers a bay view while being only minutes from Solano Ave., shops and restaurants. This very desirable Thousand Oaks home is a "must see!"

Joan Brunswick 524-9888 x12 \$925,000



724 Peralta Ave., Berkeley
PENDING

Warm three-bedroom, two-bath bungalow. Near all the wonderful S.F. Bay Area amenities. Walk ramp to front door of this one-level home. Hardwood floors, fresh paint, new carpet. One-car garage.

Arlene Baxter 524-9888 x19 \$545,000



**1823 Highland Place (off Hearst), Berkeley
By Appointment**

Beautiful, charming and spacious 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath T.I.C. Townhouse in coveted N. Berkeley. Hardwood floors, attached garage, laundry room, formal dining area, sun-filled and more! Seconds to N. campus, BART, Gourmet Ghetto, and other quaint stores and cafes. Located in a 2-unit building, it really feels like a home!

Denise Milburn 524-9888 x35 \$529,900



714 Masonic, Albany
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New Listing! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, wonderful master bedroom with vaulted ceiling and great outlooks. All bedrooms have great separation and privacy. Living room with fireplace and custom bookcases. Low maintenance yard.

Bill & Tracy 524-9888 x33 \$535,000



1461 Acton Crescent
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

Versatile charmer on a quiet cul-de-sac w/ Village Atmosphere has 2 bdrms including an Artist's Studio designed by architect Paul Wang in 2001. Beamed ceilings & refinished hwd floor. Near one of Berkeley's charming pathways—Acton Crescent Path leads from Acton Crescent to Sacramento and great transportation. BART, Strawberry Park and shopping are also nearby.

Gay Austin, Kay Kruse 524-9888 x51 \$450,000



Lots

Southampton Ave. View Lot, Berkeley

Gorgeous, gently down-sloping lot on a street full of expensive homes, in one of Berkeley's most prestigious neighborhoods. Views of the G.G. Bridge and the S.F. Bay, across from John Hinkel Park, & minutes to Solano Ave. shops.

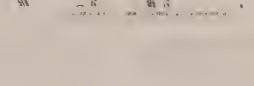
Norah Brower 524-9888 x26 \$435,000



Panoramic Way Lots

Panoramic Way lots. 5 contiguous lots, down slope with view, totaling .31 acres or 13,771 sq. ft.

Joan Brunswick 524-9888 x12 \$95,000



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1585 Arch Street

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Represented the Sellers

152 El Camino Real

Originally offered at \$789,000
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907 VISTA HEIGHTS, EL CERRITO

Two bedroom Mira Vista townhouse, rear patio opens to private 3rd fairway. Next to canyon hike, bike and dog trails. New carpet, freshly painted and a joy to see! Vaulted ceiling in master bedroom, large 2-car garage unit closest to pool, spa & tennis courts.

LISTED AT \$580,000

OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 29th 2-4 PM

Tom Cone, Realtor® DIRECT: 510-280-2000

First Time

PAGE B12

We weren't willing to accept assessment on its face, so we did our homework on Monday. We went to the police station and inquired about crime in that area. The information is public and the police are helpful. And we noted that

people were not only investing, but two properties on the end of the street had just-built, new homes.

Make the decision

The second house was the winner. We had made an offer of \$215,000 on the first property about a month before we toured the second home. Initially, that owner did

not want to come down from the asking price of \$230,000, but later said she would come down some if we could increase our bid. We told her we would think about it that weekend, then we decided to look at a few more houses.

It was then we walked into the second property and right away Kim and I knew this was the home for us.

We talked about it Sunday night and decided that we should go with the first property. It was a sure thing when it came time to resell.

Then, at 4 a.m. Kim called and said she had had a change of heart. She liked the second house, as did I. We agreed that although a house is a business investment, too, it's a place where you are going to live, and the emotions drawing you to a

place you can call home can't be disregarded.

At 1 p.m. we made an offer of \$190,000 on the second property listed at \$200,000.

After a bit of negotiating we reached a deal of \$194,500. We closed on our first home June 19.

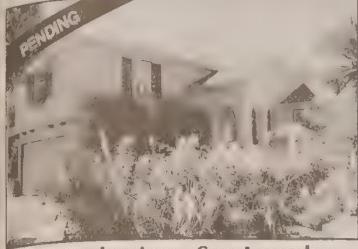
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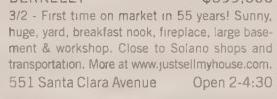
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2099 PLEASANT VALLEY
OAKLAND, CA 94611
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BERKELEY \$699,000
3/2 - First time on market in 55 years! Sunny, huge, yard, breakfast nook, fireplace, large basement & workshop. Close to Solano shops and transportation. More at www.justsellmyhouse.com.
551 Santa Clara Avenue Open 2-4:30



BERKELEY \$845,000
3+2+2 - Fusion Craftsman! Beautiful brown shingle, detached "tea room" with skylights, Ofuro soaking tub, formal dining room. Near Solano and the Gourmet Ghetto.
1923 Yolo Avenue Open 2-5



BERKELEY NEW LISTING! \$968,000
3+2+2 - Country living with gorgeous city views. Custom built in 1986. Open floor plan, large level garden. Great expansion potential and much more!
3390 Dwight Way Open 2-4:30



BERKELEY \$549,000
3/2 - Large house in central location with hardwood floors, two attached garages. Very large semi-developed space below. More at www.charliecookeproperties.com.
2501 Mabel Street Open 2-4:30



EL CERRITO \$389,000
2/1.5 - Stunning, spacious Mira Vista Townhome overlooks canyon with many trails, rear patio on golf course. Large 2-car garage, storage, pool. New carpet and paint.
907 Vista Heights Road Open 2-4



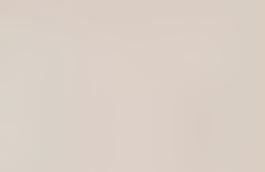
OAKLAND \$599,000
2/1 - Charming! Craftsman era bungalow in Crocker Highlands on a lovely tree-lined street. Spacious rooms include formal dining, sunny living room with fireplace. All on a large parcel.
718 Walavista Avenue Open 2-4:30



OAKLAND \$383,000
2/1 - Updated Craftsman. The best of Old and New. Large eat-in kitchen, great yard, easy access to San Francisco.
1054 56th Street Open 2-5



OAKLAND \$689,000
2/1 - Exquisite Craftsman bungalow with period details, delightful sun porch, chef's kitchen, magical gardens, landmark palm tree & perfect location! More at www.heidiandjerry.com.



OAKLAND \$539,000
2+2 - Fabulous opportunity in the heart of Rockridge. New paint inside & out, stainless appliances, large yard. A hop, skip or a jump to gourmet restaurants, cafes & BART.

by appointment

[august 29th]



BERKELEY \$789,000
4/3 - Berkeley Hills Traditional with SF & Golden Gate views. Living room with vaulted ceiling, formal dining room. 2nd level with large master suite, deck & view.



BERKELEY \$1,850,000
4/3 - Bay & SF views from every room. Approx. 2.84 acre paradise overlooking UC Berkeley on a private road. Nine rooms with private entrances offer a vast variety of uses.



OAKLAND \$689,000
2/1 - Exquisite Craftsman bungalow with period details, delightful sun porch, chef's kitchen, magical gardens, landmark palm tree & perfect location! More at www.heidiandjerry.com.



OAKLAND \$539,000
2+2 - Fabulous opportunity in the heart of Rockridge. New paint inside & out, stainless appliances, large yard. A hop, skip or a jump to gourmet restaurants, cafes & BART.

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1923 YOLO AVENUE, BERKELEY

FUSION CRAFTSMAN! Beautiful brown shingle with exquisite Craftsman details, Ofuro soaking tub, 3+ bedrooms, 2+ baths, formal dining room with built-in China hutch. Close to Solano & Gourmet Ghetto. LISTED AT \$845,000

OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 29th 2-4:30PM

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718 WALAVISTA AVENUE, OAKLAND

CROCKER CRAFTSMAN BUNGALOW - Ideally located in the popular Crocker Highlands area, this spacious 2 bedroom home features oak floors, a formal dining room with built-ins, a large entry foyer and generous garden spaces.

LISTED AT \$599,000

OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 29th 2-4:30PM

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This week's Open Home Guide starts on B16.



Alameda
\$519,000
1626 Ninth Street A
Move in condition!
Pretty 3 bedroom.
Large living & dining area, & garage.

Open Sunday 2:00 - 4:00 PM



Carol Martino
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OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 BERKELEY 828 Channing Way 3 bed/1 bath, Large lot \$425,000

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BERKELEY

1703-1705 Milvia
Investors! Duplex in prime
location! \$738,000.

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:30 PM

2501 Cordova Street, Oakland Open House Aug. 28th & 29th 1-5pm.

This beautiful Spanish Mediterranean home nestled in a coveted Dimond enclave offers a diverse and friendly neighborhood. The three bedrooms, two bath home has been recently renovated and it sparkles! Formal living room & dining room with gleaming original hardwood floors, breakfast nook, large private backyard with patio deck and fruit trees. Bonus bedroom and game room with in-law potential. Pride in Ownership.

Offered at \$559,900

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Premier Executive Home with Stunning Bay Views!!! 5932 Buena Vista Avenue, Oakland

Enjoy a relaxing glass of wine on your very own private 'sky deck' as you watch the sun set over the beautiful San Francisco Bay.

This elegantly appointed 4BR, 4BA executive home features a huge gourmet kitchen, beautiful custom wood working throughout, weight room, game room and sweeping views of the Bay from the family room, living room, entry and spacious master suite. With approximately 3,166 square feet on a 7,000+ square foot lot, you will have room to entertain in style!

Spacious kitchen features Dacor 5-burner gas range and double ovens, a built-in zero refrigerator, butler's pantry, walk-in pantry and beautiful recessed lighting.

Elegant living room boasts a marble fireplace, crown moldings, recessed lighting and incredible views of the Bay. Family room has a built-in entertainment center, granite fireplace, wet bar and more fantastic views! Lovely dining room features custom chair rail, coffered ceiling and dramatic chandelier.

Downstairs guest room and bath can also be used as an Au-Pair. Two additional guest suites are located upstairs. Master suite includes plasma screen TV, built-in window seat, private balcony with peaceful Bay views, coffered ceiling and large walk-in closet. Stay warm in your master bath with heated travertine floor, a large sunken Jacuzzi tub and dual travertine vanity.

This elegant executive home is what dreams are made of – don't miss out on this one-of-a-kind opportunity!



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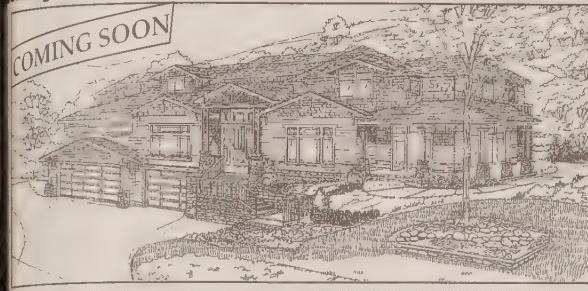
Stunning results, delighted clientele

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Lafayette - Reliez Valley Masterpiece



A masterpiece of Design and Construction
This lovely home presently under construction is located on a private road in the coveted Reliez Valley area of Lafayette. Luxury, Comfort, Serenity rarely matched. Hurry! Choose your own colors and finishes.



**Special Price
Prior to Completion!**

Jack Fletcher
Broker/Owner

- 4 large bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, approx. 4,000 sq. ft. living area
- 1 acre wooded site in a natural setting providing ultimate in privacy
- Delightful huge master suite with 2 walk-in closets, dual vanities
- Gigantic kitchen with granite counters and latest luxury appliances
- King size family room with fireplace overlooking a private deck
- Traditional living room and spacious formal dining room
- Library with massive book shelves, fireplace & French doors
- Large, convenient inside laundry room on bedroom level
- 3 car garage, decks, luxurious landscaping
- Lafayette School District, Acalanes High School

apr.com

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Windermere Real Estate



202 HARBOR ROAD, ALAMEDA

Gorgeous townhome in Harbor Bay Isle. This lovely home has 2 master suites, living room with fireplace and vaulted ceilings, a formal dining room, remodeled kitchen with Sub-Zero refrigerator, inside laundry room, pantry, eating area, a very private patio, deck off master bedroom, and attached garage. The home is across the street from the shoreline, and close to best Alameda schools, shopping, and the ferry

Asking \$585,000



PETER FLETCHER
510-521-1177
pmfbroker@windermere.com



SUE KABALIN
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suekabalin@windermere.com

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Orinda

\$2,645,000



EXQUISITE ORINDA TENNIS ESTATE. Traditional-style home with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, gourmet kitchen, master suite. Fully fenced lighted tennis court, pool and spa. 1.57+/- acre of flat land.

Lafayette

\$1,500,000



QUIET AND SERENE SETTING. Level lot offers you a chance to design and build to suit your dream home. Nestled in a Tahoe setting. Located in the Lafayette school district. Great find.

Lafayette

\$825,000



JUST LISTED. 3bd/2ba home with privacy and views, updated kitchen, hardwood floors, dual pane windows, beamed ceiling and dramatic fireplace. Close to shopping and BART. Won't last.

Moraga

\$2,295,000



NEW CONSTRUCTION. This custom home features 5 bedrooms, gourmet chef's kitchen, elegant MBD, two-story LR with Mt Diablo views, 4.0+/- acres, wrap-around veranda, expansive decks and yard.

Lafayette

\$989,000



INCREDIBLE ESTATE PROPERTY. Beautiful 3.4+- acre estate with panoramic views, 3bd/2ba, walls of glass, pool, spa, patio, gorgeous grounds and open floor plan. Custom built. Private setting.

Pleasant Hill

\$579,900



SUPER CUTE. Lovely 3bd/2ba home with family room. Many updates including paint, carpets and dual-pane windows. Nice yard and patio area. Close to schools. Great location. Great find.

Walnut Creek

\$2,100,000



PRIVATE & QUIET. Fabulous traditional-style home with 5 bedrooms plus great bonus room, 4.5 baths, 5000+/-sf and beautiful finishes. Lovely private court location in South Walnut Creek.

Orinda

\$969,000



DON'T MISS. Lovely 4bd/3ba home with hardwood floors, updated kitchen with tile floors, central A/C, dual pane windows and views. Cul-de-sac location. Close to 12 years of schools. Sought after area.

Oakland

\$380,000



LUXURY HIGH-RISE. 1bd/2ba condo in the desirable Park Bellevue Building. New renovation with limestone, new carpet, new light cabinetry, granite slabs and fresh colors. Doorman, gym, pool and views.

apr.com | ORINDA 2 THEATER SQUARE 925.258.1111

APR COUNTIES | Santa Clara | San Mateo | San Francisco | Alameda | Contra Costa | Monterey | Santa Cruz

Sales

FROM PAGE B6

320 Caldecott 221 - \$441,000
 5433 Camden St - \$475,000
 1519 Campbell St - \$475,000
 3001 Capp St - \$350,000
 2601 Carisbrook - \$740,000
 42 Carisbrook Ln - \$520,000
 87 Chadbourne Wy - \$725,000
 3118 Champion St - \$412,000
 1573 Chandler St - \$405,000
 6026 Colby St - \$890,000
 6942 Colton Bl - \$935,000
 2861 Coolidge Av - \$380,000
 5409 Crittenden St - \$305,000
 4126 Culver St - \$435,000
 5124 Desmond St - \$651,000
 2125 East 23rd St - \$260,000
 1200 East 28th St - \$435,000
 9653 East St - \$312,000
 6905 Elverton - \$1,228,000
 9131 Empire Rd - \$253,000

1120 Everett Av - \$602,000
 1134 Foothill Bl - \$487,000
 6034 Foothill Bl - \$305,500
 525 Forest St - \$752,000
 2875 Glascock 112 - \$45,000
 3926 Greenwood - \$660,000
 3396 Guido St - \$643,000
 1436 Hampel St - \$687,000
 3812 Harbor View - \$550,000
 4087 Harding Wy - \$685,000
 3115 Harrison St - \$450,000
 3115 Herritt Av - \$418,000
 3101 Holroyd - \$805,000
 3907 Huntington St - \$360,000
 4057 Huntington St - \$315,000
 10322 Knight St - \$300,000
 7330 Krause Av - \$338,000
 4814 Lawton Av - \$510,000
 6932 Lockwood St - \$435,000
 6020 MacArthur Bl - \$462,500
 6106 MacArthur Bl - \$369,500
 3546 Mangels Av - \$260,000
 2315 Maywood Av - \$280,000
 3708 Midvale Av - \$474,000

4120 Montgomery - \$715,000
 5721 Morse Dr - \$420,000
 8717 Mountain 27 - \$234,000
 744 Mountain Rd - \$895,000
 3615 Nevil St - \$260,000
 4438 Norton Av - \$680,000
 311 Oak St 515 - \$512,500
 311 Oak St 806 - \$389,000
 311 Oak St 811 - \$382,000
 567 Oakland Av - \$195,500
 2658 Parker Av - \$350,000
 155 Pearl St 207 - \$205,000
 150 Pearl St 314 - \$142,000
 6552 Pine Needle - \$740,000
 2005 Plnt. Valley - \$275,000
 3723 Redding St - \$410,000
 3927 Reinhardt Dr - \$633,000
 3318 Revere Av - \$560,000
 2189 Rosedale Av - \$360,000
 3020 Roxbury St - \$575,000
 178 Santa Clara Av - \$700,000
 672 Santa Ray Av - \$793,000
 7253 Sayre Dr - \$605,000
 2933 Seminary Av - \$360,000

8673 Seneca St - \$490,000
 5153 Shafter Av - \$745,000
 5828 Shattuck Av - \$500,000
 1071 Siler St - \$875,000
 4926 Stoneridge - \$710,000
 6585 Swainland - \$2,258,000
 4811 Telegraph 207 - \$434,000
 97 Tempier Pl - \$693,000
 4357 Terrabella Wy - \$705,000
 8622 Thermal St - \$405,000
 5 Treasure Hill - \$735,000
 2221 Vicksburg - \$240,000
 9904 Walnut St - \$228,000
 4 W. Em'cadero 135 - \$275,000
 2926 West St - \$355,000
 7 White Ct - \$1,160,000
 1126 Wood St - \$335,000
 7 Woodmont - \$2,060,000

RICHMOND

867 10th St - \$311,000
 330 1st St - \$137,500
 326 20th St - \$289,000
 628 25th St - \$370,000
 121 37th St - \$150,000

See SALES, Page B17

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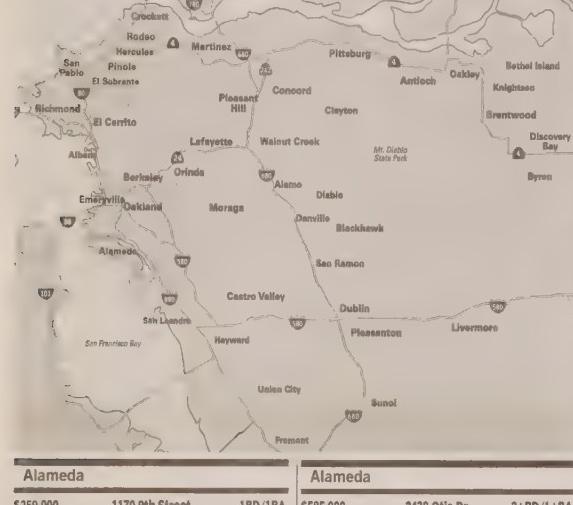
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Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

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Alameda

\$249,000	1170 9th Street	1BD/1BA	\$585,000	2438 Otis Dr.	2+BD/1+BA
Open Sun 1-4		510-339-9290	Sat & Sun 2-4	510-865-276	Gallagher & Lindsey
Prudential Montclair	Kacy Carr			Bill Bissett/Griselda Marini	
\$265,000	336 Cypress	4+BD/3BA	\$595,000	2828 Windsor Dr	2BD/1BA
Sun 2-4:30	510-522-827/521-1257		Sun 2-4:30	510-521-9017	Bayside Real Estate
Bayside Real Estate	Dianna Wyman/Nissa Dash			Jenna Ng	Colleen McFerrin
\$349,000	1321 Webster D114	2BD/1BA	\$599,950	1625 Magnolia Ln	4BD/2.5BA
Sun 2-4	510-814-4811		Sat & Sun 2-4	510-814-4881	Harbor Bay Realty
Harbor Bay Realty	Fred Christensen			Jena Ng	
\$365,000	325 Kitty Hawk Rd #208	2BD/1BA	\$618,000	2610 Bayview	3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4	510-748-1163		Sat & Sun 2-4	510-814-4821/814-4846	Harbor Bay Realty
Gallagher & Lindsey	Mila Nakpli			Elaine Millin/Janine Pace	
\$372,500	965 Shorepoint #208	2BD/2BA	\$620,000	400 Coral Reef Rd.	32BD/2BA
Sat & Sun 2-4	510-814-4831		Sun 2-4:30	510-910-5204	Alameda Realty
Harbor Bay Realty	Bev & George Williams			Vicent San Nicolas	
\$389,950	2137 Otis Dr #214	2BD/2BA	\$624,999	1101 Court St	3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4	510-303-2525		Sat & Sun 2-4	510-813-1363	Centennial Real Estate
Alameda Realty	Bette Barr			Nick Caporali	
\$430,000	2990 Via Bahia	2BD/1BA	\$625,000	2813-2815 Encinal	Duplex
Open Sunday 2-4:30pm	510-825-6908		Sat & Sun 1-5	415-531-562	Set Properties
Reality World Neighbors	Connie Nelson			1st Open House	
\$439,000	3234 Adams St.	2BD/1BA	\$629,000	1263 Hawthorne St	2BD/1.5BA
Sun 2-4	510-814-4713		Sun 2-4	510-483-1676	Kam & Associates
Harbor Bay Realty	Russ Grant			Krstyna Nowak	
\$442,000	3306 Fir Ave	2BD/2BA	\$665,000	3005 Jackson St.	3BD/2BA
Sat & Sun 1-4:30	510-814-4884		Sun 2-4	510-329-886	Kam & Associates
Harbor Bay Realty	Izabella Lipetski			Denise Brady	
\$459,000	3023 Flora Vista	3BD/1BA	\$679,000	112 Roxburg Lane	3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30	510-522-5827/521-1741		Sat & Sun 2-4	510-814-6819	Harbor Bay Realty
Bayside Real Estate	Dianna Wyman/Grace McHugh			Nancy Bianchi	
\$475,000	1626 9th St	2BD/1BA	\$695,000	1612 Minturn St	3+BD/2BA
Sun 2-4	510-814-4858		Sat & Sun 2-4	510-814-8184	Gallagher & Lindsey
Harbor Bay Realty	Brooke Abbasi			Iris Murillo/Dave Park	
\$479,000	101 Chinaberry Lane	2BD/2BA	\$719,000	322 Tideway	3BD/2.5BA
Sat & Sun 2-4	510-814-4874/814-4824		Sun 2-4	510-748-1101	Gallagher & Lindsey
Harbor Bay Realty	Mark Playstedt/Darci Vinal			Ruth Mason	
\$479,500	1037 Mound St	3BD/1.5BA	\$739,000	1838 Moreland	3BD/1.5BA
Sat & Sun 2-4	510-748-1148/748-1184		Sun 2-4	510-814-6885	Jeff Goodman
Gallagher & Lindsey	Pacita Dimacalai/The Hankels				
\$499,950	161 Centre Court	1BD/1BA	\$749,000	148 Keil Bay	3BD/2.5BA
Sun 2-5	510-814-0909		OPEN 2- Sunday	415-564-625	R.G. Lim Realtor
Help-U-Sell Alameda Homes	John Chang			Richard Lim, G.R.	
\$509,888	2509 Otis	2BD/1BA	\$749,000	2137 Channing Way	3BD/2.5BA
Sun 2-4	510-814-4822		OPEN 2- Sunday	510-290-5666	Red Oak Realty
Harbor Bay Realty	Jean Powers			Lynda Bartels	
\$519,000	1626 Ninth Street A	3BD	\$749,000	2134 Alameda Ave	4+BD/2.5BA
Sun 2-4	510-523-9300/919-2323		Sat & Sun 2-4	510-814-8079	Gallagher & Lindsey
Realty World Martino Associates	Carol Martino				
\$539,000	1118 Fontana	3BD/2.5BA	\$749,000	2145-47 San Jose Ave	Duplex
Sat & Sun 2-4	510-814-4815/814-4874		Sat & Sun 2-4	510-748-1198	Gallagher & Lindsey
Harbor Bay Realty	Nancy Gordon/Marc Playstedt			Iris Murillo/Dave Park	
\$565,000	1028 Trellis Lane	3BD/2.5BA	\$768,000	1164 Broadway	3BD/2.5BA
Sat & Sun 2-4	510-814-822/5232		Sat & Sun 2-4	510-748-1197	Gallagher & Lindsey
Harbor Bay Realty	Toni Young/Lena Sazo			Jose Cerdá-Zein	
\$568,000	617 Haight Ave	3BD/1.5BA	\$775,000	325 Channing Way	3BD/2.5BA
Sat & Sun 2-4	510-814-4839/814-4817		OPEN 2- Sunday	510-290-5666	Coldwell Banker Bartels
Harbor Bay Realty	Bill Douglas/Nancy Gordon			Lynda Bartels	
\$569,000	1508 Santa Clara	3BD/1.5BA	\$799,000	2017 Eagle Ave	2 units
Sat & Sun 2-4	510-814-4893/814-4817		Sat & Sun 2-4	510-814-4840/814-8187	Harbor Bay Realty
Harbor Bay Realty	Kathy Bell-Mathy			Tere Lee/Tim Marr	
\$585,000	202 Harbor Road	2BD	\$799,500	3206-3208 Central Ave	Duplex
Sat. & Sun. 2-5	510-521-1177		Sun 2-4	510-748-1132	Gallagher & Lindsey
Windermere Real Estate	Peter Fletcher			Dennis Keefe	

Alameda

\$825,000	1643 Mooreland Dr.	3BD/1.5BA	\$968,000	3390 Dwight Way	3BD/2BA
Sat & Sun 2-4	510-872-9236/508-6000		Open Sun 2-4:30	510-280-2125	Kane & Associates
Kane & Associates	Karen Kellenberger/John Yung			510-280-2125	
\$895,000	2865 Santa Clara Ave	5BD/2BA	\$1,250,000	600 Alvarado Rd.	4BD/3.5BA
Sun 2-5	415-706-7897		Sun 2-4:30	Claremont	510-224-5837
Century 21	Olga Rodriguez			C21 Heritage	Freddie Dixon
\$959,000	387 Victoria Bay	4+BD/3BA	\$1,650,000	1020 Keeler	6BD/5.5BA
Sat & Sun 2-4	510-822-5232/514-4880		Sun 2-4	510-486-1495	Red Oak Realty
Harbor Bay Realty	Lena Sazo/Maureen Shandobil			510-932-6606	
\$988,000	3226 Thompson Ave	3BD/2BA	\$1,950,000	728 Gelston Pl.	3BD/2.5BA
Sun 2-4	510-748-1148/748-1126		Sat 2-4:30	510-280-2104	Gallagher & Lindsey
Gallagher & Lindsey	Pacita D'Constance F.			510-932-6606	
\$998,000	138 Basinside Way	4BD/2.5BA	\$1,950,000	711 Bayview Ct.	3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4	510-814-4887/514-4839		Sat 2-4:30	510-568-2040	Mary Ann Herber
Harbor Bay Realty	Ramon Dumagulin			510-814-4840	
\$1,050,000	20 Moss Point	4BD/3BA	\$1,975,000	4419 Ewing Road	4BD/3.5BA
Sat 1:30-4:30 & Sun 2-4	510-814-4870/514-4839		Sun 1-4	510-814-4840	Harbor Bay Realty
Harbor Bay Realty	Pat Koutoulakis/Bill Douglas			510-814-4840	

Berkeley

\$968,000	3390 Dwight Way	3BD/2BA	\$1,250,000	600 Alvarado Rd.	4BD/3.5BA
Open Sun 2-4:30			Sun 2-4:30	510-280-2125	Kathy Nitsan
Red Oak Realty				510-280-2125	
\$1,250,000	600 Alvarado Rd.	4BD/3.5BA	\$1,650,000	1020 Keeler	6BD/5.5BA
Sun 2-4:30	Claremont	510-224-5837	Sun 2-4	510-486-1495	Kathy Nitsan
C21 Heritage	Freddie Dixon			510-932-6606	
\$1,650,000	1020 Keeler	6BD/5.5BA	\$1,950,000	728 Gelston Pl.	3BD/2.5BA
Sun 2-4	510-814-4840		Sat 2-4:30	510-280-2104	Gallagher & Lindsey
Red Oak Realty				510-932-6606	
\$1,950,000	728 Gelston Pl.	3BD/2.5BA	\$1,950,000	711 Bayview Ct.	3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30	Claremont	510-224-5837	Sat 2-4:30	510-568-2040	Mary Ann Herber
C21 Heritage	Freddie Dixon			510-814-4840	
\$1,975,000	4419 Ewing Road	4BD/3.5BA	\$1,975,000	711 Bayview Ct.	3BD/2BA
Sun 1-4:30	North		Sun 1-4:30	510-814-4840	Harbor Bay Realty
Exit Realty Carson				510-814-4840	
\$207,					

2913 Alta Mira - \$395,000
 3048 Barkley - \$350,000
 2714 Beach Head - \$400,000
 21 Breakers - \$625,000
 544 Civic Center - \$415,000
 2203 Coalinga Av - \$365,000
 413 Commodore - \$480,000
 2520 Downer Av - \$339,000
 735 Gertrude Av - \$290,000
 536 Harbour Wy - \$310,000

1400 Hellings Av - \$290,000
 3801 Jenkins Wy - \$267,000
 4304 Jenkins Wy - \$228,000
 509 Mainz Av - \$500,000
 424 Marine St - \$276,000
 3737 Ohio Av - \$380,000
 3803 Ohio Av - \$245,000
 2935 Oxford Av - \$530,000
 1630 Pennsylvania - \$370,000
 2154 Pyramid Dr - \$475,000

1008 Redhawk Ct - \$450,000
 2726 Roosevelt Av - \$465,000
 1513 San Joaquin - \$190,000
 3055 Shano Dr - \$439,000
 127 South 27th St - \$380,000
 355 South 50th St - \$250,000
 4512 Taft Av - \$375,000
 640 Ventura St - \$450,000
 4934 Wagon Wheel - \$300,000
 118 West Barrett Av - \$130,000

SAN LEANDRO

312 Accolade - \$540,000
 527 Begier - \$496,000
 308 Bellview Dr - \$395,000
 550 Broadmoor Bl - \$575,000
 2218 Buena Vista - \$450,000
 741 Cary Dr - \$540,000
 2017 Constitution - \$705,000
 1360 Cumberland - \$480,000
 288 Estabrook St - \$360,000

843 Evergreen Av - \$560,000
 33 Georgia Wy - \$427,000
 1152 Grace St - \$455,000
 16306 Helo Dr - \$425,000
 560 Kenilworth - \$430,000
 894 Lewelling 15 - \$300,000
 1387 Manor Bl - \$569,000
 15771 Maupert Av - \$338,000

See SALES, Page B18

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Return this jewel to its original sparkle! Wonderful fixer opportunity in the sought-after neighborhood of Le Conte/Lower Elmwood. Built in 1904, this charming two-story home on a tree-lined street near Telegraph and Ashby features 2 spacious bedrooms and 1 bath. Inviting front porch with charming leaded glass window in corner of entry. Exceptional details awaiting restoration include redwood-paneled dining room with brick fireplace and built-in cabinets, living room with redwood molding, hardwood floors, sunny kitchen with access to nice-sized back yard.

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OPEN HOMES

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**Oakland**

\$785,000 Sat. & Sun. 1-5 Coldwell Banker

\$799,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Realty

\$839,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC Real Estate

\$885,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC Real Estate

\$899,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage

\$929,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential

\$938,000 Open Sun 2-5 Prudential California Realty

\$950,000 Open Sun 1-4 Four Plus Realtors

\$960,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Realty

\$1,050,000 Open Sun 2-5 New Spring Real Estate

\$1,075,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker

\$1,095,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.

\$1,245,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors

\$1,375,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential Montclair

\$1,795,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Broadway Real Estate

\$1,795,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors

\$1,795,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential Montclair

\$1,795,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors

\$1,795,000 Open Sun

Sales

FROM PAGE B17

15165 Orion Rd - \$669,000
 16920 Robie Pl - \$629,000
 16508 Roland Av - \$540,000
 16701 Rolando Av - \$490,000
 15065 Throits St - \$395,000
 700 Tivoli St - \$684,500
 705 Tivoli St - \$690,000
 1130 Tulane Av - \$525,000
 1517 Virginia St - \$398,000
 217 W. Broadmoor - \$502,500
 230 W. Broadmoor - \$439,000

SAN LORENZO

15908 Devonwood - \$556,000
 15551 Ronconi Dr - \$555,000
 1801 Via Barrett - \$559,000
 16191 Via Catherine - \$477,500
 17317 Via Chiquita - \$380,000
 17009 Via Cielo - \$450,000
 1121 Via Enrico - \$550,000
 1746 Via Hermana - \$475,500
 1076 Via Honda - \$420,000
 15851 Via Hornitos - \$478,000
 2148 Via Murietta - \$470,000
 15863 Via Nueva - \$427,000
 15812 Via Rivera - \$440,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 29
 LOWEST PRICE: \$320,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$981,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$610,000

BE A HERO. GIVE BLOOD.

AVERAGE PRICE: \$596,172

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 5
 LOWEST PRICE: \$405,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$580,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$520,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$494,800

TOTAL SALES: 25
 LOWEST PRICE: \$250,000

HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,455,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$715,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$739,300

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 10
 LOWEST PRICE: \$320,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$900,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$582,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$572,800

PLEASE RECYCLE.

EL Sobrante

TOTAL SALES: 10
 LOWEST PRICE: \$194,500
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$508,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$410,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$377,750

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 2
 LOWEST PRICE: \$216,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$239,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$227,500

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 3
 LOWEST PRICE: \$650,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$800,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$718,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$722,667

See SALES, Page B22

The GRUBB Co.



5938 Rincon Drive, Montclair

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Rates as of 8/24/04
 COMMENTS

COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626 DRE# 00887562 Fees=\$1875	30-yr Fixed 5.750 .000 5.842 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 .000 6.093 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.250 .000 5.402 ... 30	5/i ARM Jumbo 5.000 ... 0.000 3.911 ... 30	Great Purchase, Refinance, Construction, Home Equity, 100% LTV Loans Great service, Over 25 years in Business
Mortgage World 925-522-0200 DRE# 01360139 Fees=\$1959	30-yr Fixed 5.375 .500 5.536 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500 ... 1.000 5.712 ... 30	1-yr ARM 3.125 ... 0.000 3.227 ... 30	Commercial APART MIXED call... SBA	Bad Credit BK OK UPTO 107% CAI NOW NO INCOME ASSET, JOB LOANS AVAIL SE HABLA ESPANOL NO COST HOME EQUITY
Northern Mutual Corp. 888-441-2600 DRE# 01245811 Fees=\$2348	30-yr Fixed 5.750 .1990 5.780 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500 ... 1.990 5.712 ... 30	6 month ARM 3.125 ... 1.990 3.287 ... 30		WOW! NO ADD-ON FOR JUMBO LOANS! No-Point loans are available! 3yr. pp 80% ALTV E-mail Steve@northernmutual.com
Pacific West Financial 800-798-7334 DRE# 01124581 Fees=\$1694	30-yr Fixed 5.750 .000 5.856 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 0.000 6.046 ... 30	5/i ARM Jumbo 4.875 ... 0.000 4.918 ... 30	3/1 ARM 4.250 ... 0.000 4.347 ... 30	Se Habla Espanol! No Doc Loans 103% purchase/Credit problems OK Interest Only Loans/BK OK
Preferred Mtg Services 877-562-6619 DRE# 01116503 Fees=\$1985	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .000 5.744 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.000 5.937 ... 30	MTA Index* 1.250 ... 0.000 3.642 ... 30	5/i ARM Jumbo 4.625 ... 0.000 4.683 ... 30	NO OUT OF POCKET COST LOANS AVAIL NO INC/NO ASSET VERIF DIRECT LENDER *POTEN. NEG ANM www.PreferredMortgage.com
Premier Mortgage Group 888-389-6633 DOC# 4120386 Fees=\$1992	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .000 5.680 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.000 5.988 ... 30	3/1 ARM 3.750 ... 0.000 3.673 ... 30	5/i ARM 4.375 ... 0.000 3.927 ... 30	www.pmgmortgage.com Purchase specialist-we get loans closed! Great jumbo & interest only programs
Santelli & Associates 800-516-0656 DRE# 00054953 Fees=\$1745	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .000 5.712 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.000 5.914 ... 30	3/1 ARM 4.125 ... 0.000 4.210 ... 30	30-yr ARM* 1.250 ... 0.000 4.749 ... 30	OPEN WEEKENDS / 0 POINTS- 0 COSTS avail INTEREST ONLY/DO PMT/ full index 6/62 APPLY ONLINE AT www.loannpaperwork.com
Saratoga Bancorp 800-935-6266 DRE# 01220326 Fees=\$1893	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .000 5.684 ... 45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.000 5.904 ... 45	15-yr Fixed 5.125 ... 0.000 5.223 ... 45	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625 ... 0.000 4.880 ... 45	Good or Bad Credit, Cash in 7 days! No Income Check Loan! 1st or 2nd Mortgage Pur/Refi to 100% saratogabancorp.com
Venstar Financial 877-217-1360 DRE# 01400745 Fees=\$1410	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .000 5.716 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.000 5.919 ... 30	7/1 ARM Jumbo 5.125 ... 0.000 5.163 ... 30	Jumbo 1 month Libor 2.625 ... 1.000 2.734 ... 30	Ask us about our 0 point, 0 fee programs Will beat any bank's rates 7 days a week 100% equity lines, and commercial loans
Washington Mutual Bank 925-256-7171 Fees=\$1149	30-yr Fixed call 5.625 .000 5.716 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call 5.875 ... 0.000 5.919 ... 30	3/1 ARM call ...	5/1 ARM call	Purchase Specials/5 day close/no points Complimentary pre-approval Available 7 days a week incl evenings
A Superior Mortgage 800-591-4446 DRE# 01351704 Fees=\$1889	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .000 5.760 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.000 6.120 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.125 ... 0.000 5.290 ... 30	3/1 ARM 4.610 ... 0.000 4.610 ... 30	Open weekends. Credit problems OK Apply online! www.superior-mtg.net
AAA Mortgage 888-821-6200 DRE# 01096146 Fees=\$1595	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .000 5.716 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.000 5.917 ... 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.000 ... 0.000 4.035 ... 30	1-yr ARM Jumbo 3.500 ... 0.000 3.534 ... 30	CONSTRUCTION-PERMANENT LOANS! APPLY OVER THE PHONE! GET PRE-APPROVED OVER THE PHONE!
AimLoan.com 888-411-4246 DRE# 01235124 Fees=\$2400	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .250 5.722 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.125 5.947 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.000 ... 0.250 5.162 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750 ... 0.000 4.772 ... 30	Apply and lock online 24/7. Open Sat. and Sun. from 9am til 2pm. Rates and Fees Posted Online Daily
Americasave Mortgage Corp. 866-514-7283 DOC# 6038592 Fees=\$1223	30-yr Fixed call 5.625 .000 5.690 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.000 5.945 ... 30	3/1 ARM call ...	5/1 ARM call	*APR includes bank fee 745 FICO www.americasave.com Best rates and lowest fees guaranteed or we pay you \$300!
Bay Area Funding 925-930-3100 DRE# 769452 Fees=\$2316	30-yr Fixed 5.750 ... 1.000 5.751 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 ... 1.000 5.894 ... 30	1st Time Buyer 30 4.250 ... 1.000 4.445 ... 30	1st Time Buyer 5/1 3.250 ... 1.000 3.434 ... 30	1st Time BUYER \$100 LOWEST PMT GUARANTY 1st TIME BUYER \$100 YR. FIX after Fed Subsidy Income & price limits. 100%OK
BayCal Financial Corp. 408-719-6800 DRE# 11174 Fees=\$174	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 ... 1.250 5.690 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 ... 1.000 5.891 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625 ... 0.000 4.672 ... 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.000 ... 0.000 4.045 ... 30	100% Home Financing Program up to 1 MIL Interest Only to 2 MIL, 6 MOL, 3/1, 5/1 180 Days Lock, NEW Construction Home PUR
Buckingham Mtge. Corp. 866-721-4500 DOC# 603-8905 Fees=\$2135	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .000 5.685 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 ... 0.000 5.856 ... 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.000 ... 0.250 4.150 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625 ... 0.000 4.672 ... 30	FAST APPROVAL, NO DOWN PAYMENT PROGRAMS BAD CREDIT & BK OK, NO CLOSING COST AVLBL OPEN EVENING & WKENDS. CALL 877-414-8280
Cal First Lending 877-414-8280 DRE# 01316954 Fees=\$1623	30-yr Fixed 5.583 ... 1.500 5.633 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.675 ... 0.000 5.750 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 4.750 ... 1.500 4.905 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.210 ... 0.000 4.210 ... 30	Open SELL & SUN Quik Qualifier & stated or no income option available Credit Problems O.K.
CMG Mortgage Services 800-958-5339 DRE# 01307055 Fees=\$1433	30-yr Fixed 5.375 ... 1.375 5.563 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 ... 1.375 5.805 ... 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.250 ... 1.000 4.360 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.375 ... 1.375 4.518 ... 30	100% financing, less paper work FREE PRE-APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES
Countrywide Home Loans 888-484-7776 Fees=\$1215	30-yr Fixed call 5.580 ... 1.500 5.630 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call 5.674 ... 1.000 5.724 ... 30	10/1 ARM Jumbo call ...	12 Mo Pay I/P call	DIRECT LENDER 45 yrs experience: fixed & adjust rate mtgs. *Pot. neg. amort. Apply online at www.downeyavings.com
Custom Mtg Solutions 800-259-9510 DOC# 6038694 Fees=\$1170	30-yr Fixed 5.250 ... 2.000 5.420 ... 35	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 ... 2.000 5.870 ... 35	15-yr Fixed 4.500 ... 2.000 4.721 ... 35	CODI 30 yr ARM* 1.250 ... 0.000 1.250 ... 30	90% LTV in Bankruptcy! *No DOC to \$1M. *Loans for A-B-C-D Credit! 100% Purchase *Loans to \$4 Mill. **Pot. neg. amort.
ditech.com 800-395-1376 DOC# 8132040 Fees=\$1890	30-yr Fixed 5.250 ... 2.000 5.550 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625 ... 2.000 5.874 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 4.625 ... 2.000 5.129 ... 30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.000 ... 2.000 5.415 ... 30	Apply online at www.ditech.com *Your mortgage solution. Delivered!
Downey Savings & Loan 800-798-2148 DOC# 6037471 Fees=\$1428	30-yr Fixed 5.600 ... 1.500 5.664 ... 45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 0.625 6.072 ... 45	1-mo COFI JARM 1.250 ... 1.000 1.250 ... 45	1-yr ARM Jumbo 4.500 ... 1.500 4.658 ... 30	Direct lender 45 yrs experience: fixed & adjust rate mtgs. *Pot. neg. amort. Apply online at www.downeyavings.com
First Blackhawk Financial 800-796-MARY DRE# 01144055 Fees=\$1986	30-yr Fixed 5.750 ... 0.000 5.842 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.000 5.915 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750 ... 0.000 4.787 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.125 ... 0.000 4.161 ... 30	JUMBO AND SUPER JUMBO SPECIALIST more rates at manyleighcell.com Call 7 days wk mlightell@1stblackhawk.com
Fremont Bank 866-222-6283 Fees=\$1739	30-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 0.000 5.898 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.000 5.919 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.250 ... 0.000 5.289 ... 30	1-yr ARM Jumbo 3.875 ... 0.000 4.688 ... 30	Call Fremont Bank for full product terms & conditions. HELCO rates always below prime. Apply online www.fremontbank.com
Golden Gate Home Loans 877-245-5899 DOC# 6052720 Fees=\$1946	30-yr Fixed 5.625 ... 0.000 5.727 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.000 5.919 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.000 ... 0.000 5.170 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625 ... 0.000 4.711 ... 30	100% financing, No Income Verification!!! 100% non-owner, const. loans, lot loans!! open 8:00 AM-6:00 PM, 7 days a week!!!!
Hamilton National Mtge 800-220-7334 DOC# #4130379 Fees=\$1166	30-yr Fixed 5.625 ... 0.000 5.673 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 0.000 6.081 ... 30	10-yr Fixed 4.625 ... 0.000 4.721 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.000 ... 0.000 5.183 ... 30	CONSISTENTLY THE LOWEST RATES SINCE 1986 COMPETITIVE NO COST LOANS WWW.HAMILTONNATIONAL.COM
Imperial Mortgage 800-961-2274 DRE# 0130392 Fees=\$1453	30-yr Fixed 5.500 ... 1.000 5.690 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 ... 1.000 5.910 ... 30	5/1 interest only 4.690 ... 10	No D/30 yr Fix 6.450 ... 1.000 6.710 ... 30	DON'T BE "LURED IN" BY LOW QUOTES CALL ME FOR A HONEST, LOCKABLE RATE! FIND OUT WHY I GET TONS OF REFERRALS! BAD CREDIT OK
Matrix Investment Corp. 800-366-8916 DOC# 4130418 Fees=\$1831	30-yr Fixed 5.250 ... 1.880 5.489 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500 ... 1.880 5.850 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 4.500 ... 1.880 4.97 ... 30	1-yr ARM 2.875 ... 0.625 4.613 ... 30	Bad Credit, Brokers, & Commercial Loans Welcome! www.matrixinvestmentcorp.com

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- ◆ Learn about each lender's products & services
- ◆ Email questions/scenarios to lenders
- ◆ Learn about closing costs and types of loans
- ◆ Hotlinks to all lenders' websites
- ◆ Check out our useful mortgage calculators
- ◆ Prequalify, preapprove or apply online

THIS WEEK
 HOME
 STARTS
 ON

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 3
 LOWEST PRICE: \$194,500
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$800,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$718,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$722,667

See SALES, Page B22

PLEASE REMEMBER

Real Estate Advertising Dept

Space Reservations Copy Requesting

MONDAY, 12 Noon

Tuesday, 12 Noon Wednesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

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- All private party ads are prepared Checks and major credit cards accepted



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- Tuesday
- Open Home Guide
- Friday

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Real Estate & Home

Real Estate



Real Estate Information & Announcements

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WE'LL BUY YOUR House WE'Ll PAY CASH

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It is illegal for companies doing business by phone to pay you a loan and ask you to pay it before they deliver. This is a public service announcement of the Federal Trade Commission and the Consumer Protection News.

\$O DOWN

Credit problems? Owner/Non Owner Purchases? Prev. Bankruptcy OK Commercial loans. Foreclosures? Credit Lines 24hr. Hotline 1-877-554-0825 Lic. by Dept. of Corporations

BUY or RE-FL \$O DOWN

Bankruptcy OK Agt.-Foreclosures 24HR. 1-877-554-0825 Lic. by Dept. of Corporations

\$5 NEED CASH?

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280/280/180 house on 44 acs. in city limits. Zoned Industrial. View South Fork. Water Mtns 1075-554-0825 Lic. by Dept. of Corporations

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HAWAII SACRIFICE. Red in RCI. 280/280/180. 1-877-554-0825

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TAHOE-Truckee. Search Mtns. 1-877-554-0825. www.contracostatimes.com

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WILLOWS, CA

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5 UNITS

1800 sq ft. 3bd/2ba. 2nd flr. Pergola, fire pit. Walk to sch. \$300,000. 925-498-5676

Fast, Cash, Quick Close

900. 495-267-5676

Sales

FROM PAGE B18

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 134
LOWEST PRICE: \$142,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$2,258,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$434,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$506,127

PLEASE RECYCLE.**PIEDMONT**

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$840,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,500,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$899,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$1,086,000

AVERAGE PRICE: \$345,859**SAN LEANDRO**

TOTAL SALES: 28
LOWEST PRICE: \$300,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$705,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$496,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$500,250

HIGHEST PRICE: \$559,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$475,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$479,846

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 39
LOWEST PRICE: \$130,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$625,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$350,000

SAN LORENZO

TOTAL SALES: 13
LOWEST PRICE: \$380,000

This list is provided by California Resource, a real estate information company that obtains the information from the County Recorder's Office. Neither California Resource nor this newspaper guarantees the completeness or accuracy of the information. All questions should be directed to CalResource@aol.com. Call 209-365-6663.

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Mid-Century diamond located on one of Ingleside's best blocks with Ocean & Bay views. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, room down, and expansion potential. Gorgeous remodeled kitchen. \$559,000



Midtown Terrace
Located on a quiet cul-de-sac this 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath home has panoramic views. Large deck and backyard. \$599,000



Novato
High atop a hill overlooking Indian Valley, this architectural masterpiece is situated on 2+ acres. 3 bedrooms, 4 baths, separate wing ideal for home office, au pair, or master suite. \$1,600,000

**Prudential
California Realty**

Jim Hedges

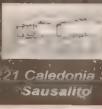
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**Open Sunday
August 29
2:00 to 4:30**

PIEDMONT

\$1,598,000

471 Mountain Avenue
Spectacular 5+ BR, 4 BA contemporary in Piedmont featuring wood beamed vaulted ceilings and oversized windows for plenty of natural light. Great space for entertaining with open living room and formal dining room, huge family room and recreation room, music room, home gym, office and more!

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

\$960,000

1951 Oakview Drive
Stunning Spanish Mediterranean with soaring Bay views, 2 suites with private baths, sunken living room, chef's kitchen; spacious in-law with separate entrance, located on quiet cul-de-sac.

Ken Nwokedi 510-339-4000

OAKMORE AREA

\$799,000

2014 Clemens Road

Just listed! Lovely Traditional with spacious rooms, home office, new kitchen and spectacular yard! This 1939 treasure has a master suite and a playroom, too. See virtual tour at:

PatriciaBennett.com 510-482-9000

MONTCLAIR

\$749,000

2177 Trafalgar Place

Spacious 3 BD, 2 BA Montclair Rancher in secluded wooded setting. Upgrades throughout, hardwood floors, serene landscaped yard w/hill views. 2 BD/ 1 BA oversized in-law with separate entrance.

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

OAKLAND

\$649,900

3015 Roxbury Avenue

1st open in 43 years! Sheffield Village classic. Master suite and family room addition, gleaming floors, workshop and large bonus room, even waterfall!

Very special!
Earle Shenk 510-220-6407

LAKESHORE TERRACE

\$630,000

549 Rosal Avenue

Lakeshore Terrace contemporary craftsman with city views, spacious floor plan, formal living room w/fireplace, FDR, updated kitchen, HWF floors throughout, deck, landscaped.

Ken Nwokedi 510-339-4000

GLENVIEW

\$499,000

1609 Excelsior Avenue

Adorable 2 BD, 1 BA Glenview Cottage with lush gardens and inviting covered porch. Great detailing throughout with hardwood floors, crown molding built in cabinets and bookshelves. Living room and formal dining room charm, while the secluded backyard and hot tub offer a relaxing retreat!

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

PIEDMONT

\$1,598,000

471 Mountain Avenue

Spectacular 5+ BR, 4 BA contemporary in Piedmont featuring wood beamed vaulted ceilings and oversized windows for plenty of natural light. Great space for entertaining with open living room and formal dining room, huge family room and recreation room, music room, home gym, office and more!

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

\$960,000

1951 Oakview Drive

Stunning Spanish Mediterranean with soaring Bay views, 2 suites with private baths, sunken living room, chef's kitchen; spacious in-law with separate entrance, located on quiet cul-de-sac.

Ken Nwokedi 510-339-4000

OAKMORE AREA

\$960,000

1951 Oakview Drive

Stunning Spanish Mediterranean with soaring Bay views, 2 suites with private baths, sunken living room, chef's kitchen; spacious in-law with separate entrance, located on quiet cul-de-sac.

Ken Nwokedi 510-339-4000

PIEDMONT

\$1,598,000

471 Mountain Avenue

Spectacular 5+ BR, 4 BA contemporary in Piedmont featuring wood beamed vaulted ceilings and oversized windows for plenty of natural light. Great space for entertaining with open living room and formal dining room, huge family room and recreation room, music room, home gym, office and more!

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

\$960,000

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Stunning Spanish Mediterranean with soaring Bay views, 2 suites with private baths, sunken living room, chef's kitchen; spacious in-law with separate entrance, located on quiet cul-de-sac.

Ken Nwokedi 510-339-4000

OAKMORE AREA

\$960,000

1951 Oakview Drive

Stunning Spanish Mediterranean with soaring Bay views, 2 suites with private baths, sunken living room, chef's kitchen; spacious in-law with separate entrance, located on quiet cul-de-sac.

Ken Nwokedi 510-339-4000

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SPORTS

• Friday, August 27, 2004 •

Section C



was a long
road to majors

S A KID in the Alameda projects and Encinal High School, he had encountered no racism. It was a whole new "real" world when Willie Stargell's Hall of Fame career in baseball's minor

league. In his book, "Willie Stargell's Autobiography," with Willie Stargell and Tom Bird, Stargell wrote, "Nothing else dealing with either baseball or life was difficult for me to handle as I am. Because I was raised in projects, I grew up accepting all people as equal. But my heart was tested immediately when I entered the minor leagues."

After his first spring training with Bob Zuk signed him with Pittsburgh Pirates organization, he was assigned to San Antonio, Texas, in the Class D Southwest League, "the lowest classification in baseball" at the time.

Negroes were not accepted by the league's eight teams, including the larger ones such as Odessa (78,000).

The sophomore league, led by the rules of racism, San Angelo dropped out of the league because of low attendance and was moved to Amarillo, N.M., Stargell recalled. In Roswell, he and three other members of the team (of them Latin American) were prohibited from living in the same section of the city or staying in the same hotel as the white players. The Pirates, he said, were sympathetic and took responsibility for protecting us with housing."

Stargell boarded for \$20 a week with a black Air Force sergeant but "conditions on the road were a strain." He cited problems such as being able to eat in the diners of restaurants, bus stops banned the Negroes from coming in and grossing \$175 a month, while having wardrobe items. But, he wrote, "although I was deeply bothered by racism ... I always hid out inside and never allowed to escape, never spoke anyone about it."

Negroes, he wrote, were always seated in separate parts of stadium.

The racial insults hurt, but what most was that Negroes also shouted insults. "I know what to do. I felt so unwanted, so intimidated after talking to a Negro and I gritted up the pain. ... I dared to grin and beat it ... I dared complain. I didn't want to be taken from the team," he wrote.

During the sophomore year, no one had ever cared if he was black. Then in Plainfield someone cared enough to change my life because of it," he wrote there, Stargell recalled. "A white man on the team said, '(expletive), if you play in that game tonight, show your brains out.' And he toughed it out as he progressed to the minor leagues — Grand Forks, N.D. They'd hardly ever seen a black person before," he recalled, Asheville, North Carolina. In 1962, he called up to Pittsburgh to play the final years of the Pittsburgh Pirates. There, he was based at old Forbes Field before finally, in 1970, he just home run in Three Rivers Stadium.

The Pirates won the National League East title but lost in the playoffs. In Stargell's eighth-inning home run in 112 runs as what turned out to be the deciding run in the championship. He finished second to curmudgeon manager Joe DiMaggio as the National League

In 1972 he hit 33 homers in 112 runs as what turned out to be the deciding run in the championship. He finished second to curmudgeon manager Joe DiMaggio as the National League

In 1972 he hit 33 homers in 112 runs as what turned out to be the deciding run in the championship. He finished second to curmudgeon manager Joe DiMaggio as the National League

Scott named head coach for Gauchos

■ Former Berkeley High standout is rewarded for his loyalty to El Cerrito boys basketball program

By Chace Bryson
STAFF WRITER

He may have played for and graduated from Berkeley High School, but for the last five years, Antonio Scott has dedicated himself to the boys basketball programs at El Cerrito. And it has paid off.

On Tuesday, athletic director George Austin confirmed that the

five-year assistant had been hired as the new varsity boys head coach.

"I'm very excited," Scott said Tuesday.

Scott began his service with El Cerrito basketball assisting varsity coach Brent Daniels at the start of the 1999-2000 season. In addition to assisting the varsity, he was also the junior varsity boys coach for his first two seasons with the school.

As an assistant for Daniels, the Gauchos basketball team went to the North Coast Section Division III playoffs three out of four years — winning the NCS

title in the 2002-03 season. Last season, with Scott assisting coach Billy Keys, El Cerrito went 15-11 and lost in the first round of the NCS playoffs.

Scott has a storied playing career that includes playing for Diablo Valley College and Chico State, and even earning a few workouts with the Utah Jazz after developing a friendship with Utah center Greg Foster. When he was asked by Daniels to join the staff at El Cerrito, Scott was coaching at the junior high level and running some after-school programs for the district.

Despite just two years of head

coaching experience at the JV level, Scott is not worried about his first job as a varsity head coach.

"I've been an assistant in the program for the last five years, so I don't look at it as much of a transition," Scott said. "It's just a new title. Coaching basketball and dealing with kids is what I've been doing for a long time, so I'm not that worried about it."

As a number of players return from last season's team, Scott feels that the familiarity with his players will also help.

"I've already coached most of

these guys," Scott said. "They know what to expect out of me, and I know how to get the best out of them."

The Gauchos had four sophomores on last year's roster who will return as juniors. The team will also return four seniors who had impacts last season, including Milton Brown and Kendrick Leaks.

"We're going to look to surprise some people," Scott said. "This group has been playing together for a while now and is real team-oriented. I'm looking forward to (the season)."



EDDIE LEDESMA/STAFF



EDDIE LEDESMA/STAFF

Almost football time

ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL'S Donnie Phelps, left photo, and Drew Southern get ready for the upcoming football season during conditioning drills.

BRIEFS

BAWBL baseball tourney

1st Annual Tournament for Bay Area Women's Baseball League will be held Sept. 23-25 at Mission College in Santa Clara. Games held Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday championships begin at 10 a.m. Top women's teams from around nation, food and booths. www.calwomensbaseball.com.

Hadnot Foundation golf tourney

6th Annual Jim Hadnot Golf Classic will be held Sept. 17 at Metropolitan Golf Links at 10051 Doolittle Dr. in Oakland with 7:30 a.m. shotgun start. Four-person scramble format, \$130/person or \$520/foursome. Proceeds benefit James W. Hadnot, Sr. Foundation. 510-615-2931.

CA Track Club

CA Track Club in Oakland is looking for boys and girls ages 11-16. 510-482-9696.

Bay Area Rescue Mission golf tourney

21st Annual Unique Mestiza's Men's and Women's Slowpitch Tournament will be held Sept. 11-12 at Louise Park Softball Complex in Stockton. \$200 per team. Registration deadline Sept. 6. 209-951-5735 or 209-406-2616.

El Cerrito seeks football coaches

El Cerrito High School is looking for two assistant football coaches. 510-508-3163.

FISHING REPORT

PACIFIC OCEAN

Diana Nunez of berkeleymarinas-porfishing.com said the Berkeley salmon fishing fleet continued to work the area between the San Francisco Light Ship and the Marin shoreline. The salmon continue to hold in this area due to the abundance of anchovies. They are between 40 and 60 feet deep, with many boats scoring a fish a rod up to limits. On Tuesday,

both the New Easy Rider and the El Dorado returned with limits up to 21 pounds. Capt. Robert Gallia of the El Dorado said with the good weather predicted throughout the coming weekend, it's a good bet that the scores will improve as more of the larger fish move in.

James Smith and the California Dawn continued to have success fishing for rock cod. Along the Marin coast, they caught 29 limits Wednesday and 11 limits Monday. Fishing near the Farallon Islands on Sunday, they caught 27 limits. Conditions have been calm. THE BAYS

SUSIN: Tony Lopez of McAvoy's Bait in Pittsburg said the wind and 1-2 foot tides have kept most boaters off the water. A couple oversized sturgeon were caught and released between Roe and Ryer islands. Roe is-

5 p.m. at United Sports Complex in Stockton and Sept. 11 at 10 a.m. at Solano College in Suisun City. 740-373-2068 or www.coasttocoastathletics.com.

Chris Mashburn Memorial softball tourney

Chris Mashburn Memorial Foundation Tournament will be held Sept. 18-19 at Willow Pass Park in Concord for men's and coed city league teams C and lower. \$260. 925-682-0478 or www.cmrfoundation.org.

Miramonte seeks volleyball coach

Miramonte High School in Orinda is looking for a freshman volleyball coach. 925-376-4423, ext. 451.

Strikers 18-under softball tryouts

Strikers 18-under team will be holding tryouts for fall ball Aug. 29 at Oak Grove High School at 285 Blossom Hill Rd. in San Jose. Pitchers and catchers at 9 a.m., and position players at 10:30 a.m. 408-227-8191, 408-274-9301 or www.strikers.org.

Sorcerer 18 gold/18A softball tryouts

Sorcerer Softball 18 gold and 18A teams will be holding tryouts Aug. 29, 925-825-6274 or www.sorcerersoftball.org.

Sorcerer 14A softball tryouts

Sorcerer Softball 14A team will be

holding tryouts Aug. 29 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Benicia Middle School. 707-747-1027 or www.sorcerersoftball.org.

Sorcerer 16A softball tryouts

Sorcerer Softball 16A team will be holding tryouts Aug. 29 from 1:30-4 p.m. at Benicia Middle School. 925-934-1821 or www.sorcerersoftball.org.

Strikers 10-under-16-under softball tryouts

Strikers 10-under through 16-under teams will be holding tryouts for fall ball Aug. 29 at Oak Grove High School at 285 Blossom Hill Rd. in San Jose. 408-281-7855 or www.strikers.org.

National Junior Basketball

National Junior Basketball is looking for leaders to start NJB chapters. 40,000 members in Southern California. www.njb.org.

Piedmont High basketball clinics

Piedmont High School's boys basketball coach Chris Lavdiots and girls coach Bryan Gardere and staff will be conducting shooting clinics with Global Shot Doctor for ages 7-18 Sept. 19 at PHS. Clinic I, noon to 3 p.m., and Clinic II, 3-6 p.m. \$60 per clinic. 510-433-2600, or 510-655-2624.

See FISHING, Page 2

Fishing

FROM PAGE 1

Ground on ghost shrimp. Christian and Clinton Roemer of Danville caught 12 catfish out of Sherman Island using clams.

THE RIVERS

SACRAMENTO RIVER, RED-DING TO ANDERSON: Kirk Portocarrero of Outdoor Adventures Sport Fishing said fly fishing for rainbow trout is still good, with guided groups getting 15-25 fish each day. The bug hatch is good in the afternoon, with the mornings and afternoons the most productive. Rainbows are up to 6 pounds. Working well are Micro Mayfly #16 and Fox's Pupans.

SACRAMENTO RIVER, CORNING: Portocarrero said fishing for king salmon is picking up as anglers are catching 15-30 pounders around the Woodson Bridge area. More than 300 salmon passed the Diversion Dam in one day and more are making their way upriver. Watch for fishing to improve as the weeks pass. Anglers are using Flatfish T-50s and bouncing roe.

THE DELTA

David Dutra of Gotcha! Bait and Tackle in Antioch said stripers are being picked up using Rat-L-Traps in Big Break and Sherman Lake, and also near the Antioch Bridge using sardines and anchovies. Catfish can be caught at Holland Tract and Walnut Grove. Black bass action has been slow. Salmon should begin to appear in the Delta by mid-September.

Mark Abbey caught two 14-pound stripers and Russ Pipkin caught 5- and 8-pound stripers on Rat-L-Traps on the Sacramento River. Jack Bishop caught a 24.6-pound striped and Sterling Felige caught a 13.6-pound striped on shad at Sherman Lake. Kathy Allen caught a 2.5-pound striped anchovy at Jersey Island and Aaron Sanchez caught a 7-pound striped on shad at Collinsville. Mike Shelton caught 30 pounds of catfish on frozen minnows near Walnut Grove. Victor Rosenberg caught a 45-pound salmon on ghost shrimp at Sherman Island, and Dutra and a friend caught two striped totaling 17 pounds at Big Break using Rat-L-Traps.

Audie Urbano of Hap's Bait and Tackle jokingly said more people are flying kites around Rio Vista than catching fish. The wind continues to hamper most efforts to get on the water, although it has led to cooler water temperatures. Anglers can catch stripers around the Rio Vista Bridge and also off Decker Island if the wind dies down. Catfish still are being

Curtis Pashelka's Bay Area fishing report

Poor	Fair	Good	Great	Excellent
1. San Francisco Bay — Not a popular place right now.	2. Mothball Fleet — Stripper fishing should pick up soon.	3. Montezuma Slough — Sturgeon haven't been biting lately.	4. Roe Island — Will be better once wind dies down	5. Rio Vista — Conditions haven't improved much.
6. Sherman Lake — Larger stripers can be had here	7. Big Break — Another alternative for stripper anglers.	8. San Pablo Reservoir — Catfish are being held near the launch area		

caught in the back sloughs, such as Minor Slough.

THE LAKES

SAN PABLO RESERVOIR, EL SOBRANTE: Bait fishing for trout is slow as the water is still too warm to trigger a good bite. Keep adding attractant to your bait. Trolling for trout also is slow. Catfish action remains good with reports of some limits coming out of the launch area. Chicken liver is working best. Bass fishing is fair as anglers should try the area from Scow Canyon to the dam with crawdad pattern crank baits. Crappie fishing remains slow. San Fong of Oakland caught a 26-pound, 9.6-ounce catfish at the launch using liver.

LAKE CHABOT, CASTRO VALLEY: Some trout have been caught in Half Moon Bay on nightcrawlers, and bass continue to be taken at Alder Point using crankbaits or minnow-shaped plastics. Catfish action has been hot around the island and down at Bass Cove using mackerel and beef liver.

LOS VAGUEROS, BRENTWOOD: For trout, fish in the morning or late afternoon. Anglers are using a variety of PowerBait (rainbow, chubrene, orange). Power Eggs have had good results and stay on the hook longer. Boaters have been having good luck bait fishing in Peninsula Cove and near the dam using a variety of baits for rainbow trout.

A number of largemouth bass were caught this week with some off the shore near the docks by Oak Point and rock wall. Largemouth bass were also caught and released by anglers with boats in and around Peninsula Cove, using Rat-L-Traps and poppers. Bass anglers generally use rubber worms, Rat-L-Traps or poppers. White catfish, brown bullheads and channel catfish generally can be pulled out anywhere along shoreline. Catfish have been pulled out on worms close to Oak Point and South Cove. Some anglers with boats have caught catfish in Peninsula Cove and near the dam.

LAKE DEL VALLE, LIVERMORE: A few lucky anglers have been picking up a few trout recently in the south end of the lake on nightcrawlers and PowerBait. Lately the bass have been right in the cover. If you don't get any snags, fish deeper into the cover. Try split shooting Senkos or pulling spinners right along the weeds. A lot of anglers are spotting catfish from the south end all the way to the dam. Try using chicken liver in the coves or in shallow shaded areas. Expect 2-4 fish per rod. Fishing slows down about noon. Bobby Carvalho, using nightcrawlers, caught a bluegill just shy of two pounds while fishing at the dam.

— Curtis Pashelka

Currier

FROM PAGE 1

became the Pirates' field leader, led the league in homers with 44 and again finished second in MVP voting, this time to Pete Rose.

The Pirates finished first in their division again in 1974 when Stargell hit .301, and in 1975 he batted .295 and, for the first time in his pro career, alternated greatly between outfield and first base. In 1976, he was permanently assigned to first base. But Stargell also had physical and emotional problems and his average dipped to .257. An inner ear infection limited his 1977 play to 63 games with a .274 average. The Pirates finished second in their division in 1978 for the third time, but Stargell had returned to form, hitting .295 with 97 RBI and was National League Comeback Player of the Year.

Going into the 1979 season, Stargell, as captain of the team, handed out gold cloth stars for teammates' caps for special performances and the Pirates had the theme song, Sister Sledge's "We Are Family," which helped motivate the team. The key cog was Stargell, who dazzled with his home run heroics against the Cubs in the last game of the season, then led the Pirates through the National League playoffs against Cincinnati by hitting .455 with two homers, a double and six RBI.

After the fourth game of the 1979 World Series against Baltimore, with the Pirates trailing 3-1, he wrote, at a clubhouse session with barbecue ribs washed down with vintage wine, he told the group, "We're professionals. We don't live in the past and we don't let one ballgame ruin our future either. Tomorrow, we'll go out and have fun again, win or lose. The man doesn't say 'Work Ball!', you know, it's 'Play Ball!'"

And the rest is history as the Pirates took three straight and on Oct. 17 won 4-1 for the World Series title with Stargell the MVP.

In 1980 the Pirates were third in the National League East. That's when Phil Garner, speaking of the varied ethnic and racial makeup of the team, said, "To keep factions from developing you have to have someone that the blacks respect and someone that the whites respect, and the guy who puts that all together for us is Willie Stargell."

In total, Stargell hit more home runs than any player in Pirates history, including many of the longest shots, twice hitting the ball out of Dodger Stadium. Former Dodgers pitcher, now Atlanta broadcaster, Don Sutton said, "He didn't just hit pitchers, he took away their dignity."

When he shared the National League MVP award with Keith Hernandez in 1979, Stargell was the oldest player to achieve that honor.

During his Pirates' career he established a downtown-based center for his Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation. His sister, Sandra, was in charge of the office and took this writer on a tour through the Pittsburgh facility, along with a briefing on its many fund-raisers including an annual bowling tournament in Pittsburgh.

He retired from baseball in 1982, and later in the 1980s

served as a coach for the Atlanta Braves and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1988. From until his death, Stargell was an assistant to the general manager of the Atlanta Braves.

Stargell suffered from kidney disease, which required dialysis. Stargell died on April 9, 2001 ... the stadium and just two days before Stargell was unveiled.

He was survived by his wife, four daughters, Precious, Sandra, Sandra, and oldest, Precious, was the Alameda parade from Washington down Webster Street to the new High where the foundation dedicated in his name (Wilmer Jr.) and five

children. Steve Glass, a former baseball teammate, was the Washington Post reporter. "Besides the records and numbers, the things impressed me the most was how he had playing the game."

And it all began when he was a boy, skinny lad in the projects and at Was Park

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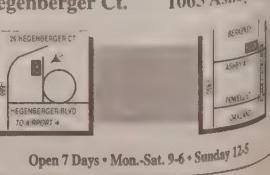
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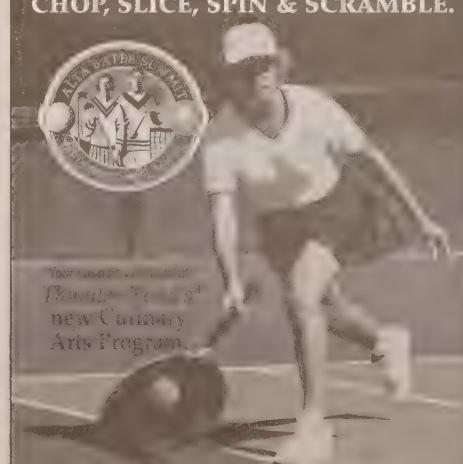
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"ALIEN VS. PREDATOR": A heartless, gullible (unintentionally) hilarious film — we hope — to the "Alien" and "Predator" franchises. Lance Henrikson is a billionaire who finances a research trip to a pyramid buried in the desert. Surprise! It's a trap, and humans are it. Would have been a better video game. Cool though. — R. Moore. (PG-13: gore, language, horror, images, violence.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. C

"SUNRISE SUNSET": A sequel to "Sunrise." Former lovers (Ewan McGregor and Celine Dion) have a chance to rekindle their romance. Surprise! It's a trap, and humans are it. Would have been a better video game. Cool though. — R. Moore. (PG-13: gore, language, horror, images, violence.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. B

"CATWOMAN": There's nothing quite

(Julie Delpy) meet again after nine years apart and spend 80 minutes (the film is in real time) roaming the streets of Paris together. Richard Linklater's leanest, sparsest film yet is also his best, most mature work. It challenges all the conventions of romantic movies, cutting out grand misunderstandings, nudity and sex. Instead this potent, wry love story delves into the real and true emotions involved in experiencing desire as we age and gain responsibilities. Even the sweet, sweet "Before Sunrise" seems slightly staid in comparison. — M. Pois. (R: language and sexual references.) 1 hour, 20 minutes. A

"BENJI: OFF THE LEASH!": That lovable, smart dog is back, but in a darker story. A teen's parents run a puppy mill in their yard. The father is abusive; at times the mother has visible bruises. When a prized breeder becomes pregnant, the boy rescues a pup, whose fate eventually intersects with Benji's. — C. Foster. (PG: thematic material.) 1 hour, 46 minutes. C

"THE BOURNE SUPREMACY": Two years after we first met him, Matt Damon's Jason Bourne is as like, strong and sharp-witted a disaffected spy as ever. The franchise continues, with a strong tale of heartbreak and revenge, set among various exotic locales. Joan Allen joins the cast as a CIA operative who thinks Bourne has gone bad. Director Paul Greengrass takes over from Doug Liman, and he does a good job, although the material is less fresh and he's a little too in love with chaotic car chases. — M. Pois. (PG-13: intense action violence.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. B

"IMAGINING ARGENTINA": Antonio Banderas and Emma Thompson star in this political thriller set in 1976 Buenos Aires. Banderas plays children's theater director Carlos, whose journal wife, Cecilia (Thompson), vanishes after penning a series of articles questioning the fate of the "disappeared." But Carlos soon learns he has a gift — the ability to accurately "imagine" the fate of the disappeared. The one person he has difficulty "seeing," however, is Cecilia. — K. Crust (R: violence/torture, brief language.) 1 hour, 39 minutes. D+

"FAHRENHEIT 9/11": He's baaaaaaac! With a vengeance, a camera and archival footage no conservative wants to see. In Michael Moore's exhaustive, and rather exhausting, nonfiction film, the must-see "documentary" of the season, America's resident noodge details the many reasons why he hates President George Bush and why he thinks you should, too. The results are passionate, clever, scathing, funny, snarky, brutal, sad, glib, often wildly entertaining and at times superficial. Moore is at his strongest when he lets a woman named Lia Lipscomb, whose son was stationed in Iraq, do the talking. She will break your heart. — M. Pois. (R: language, violence/images of war.) 1 hour, 56 minutes. B+

"THE CLEARING": A somber, taut and elegantly made thriller worth seeing for the unusually emotionally intimate performance from Robert Redford, who stars as a top executive kidnapped by a former employee (Willem Dafoe). The story is told in two parts, one following Redford's and Dafoe's characters on the day of the kidnapping and the other following Helen Mirren, playing Redford's wife, as she tries to get her husband back. A bit too civilized, but first-time director Pieter Jan Brugge does a fine job building the tension. — M. Pois. (R: brief strong language.) 1 hour, 31 minutes. B

"EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING": This prequel to "The Exorcist" is awash in repugnant imagery. Father Merrin (Stellan Skarsgård) has given up the priesthood in the late 1940s, his faith shattered by horrors he witnessed under the Nazis. A British collector seeking a priceless artifact entices Merrin to join a dig in Kenya, where a pristine Roman Catholic church has been discovered, buried in the fifth century at a time when no Christian intruders had been made that far into Africa. — D. Germain. (R: strong violence and gore, disturbing images and rituals, language.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. D

"THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2: ROYAL ENGAGEMENT": SuperBabies: Baby Geniuses 2 (PG) 12:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45

"MEAN CREEK": SuperBabies: Baby Geniuses 2 (PG) 12:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30

"COLLATERAL": SuperBabies: Baby Geniuses 2 (PG) 12:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30

"THE VILLAGE": SuperBabies: Baby Geniuses 2 (PG) 12:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30

"WITHOUT A PADDLE": SuperBabies: Baby Geniuses 2 (PG) 12:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30

"THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE": SuperBabies: Baby Geniuses 2 (PG) 12:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30

"HERO": SuperBabies: Baby Geniuses 2 (PG) 12:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30

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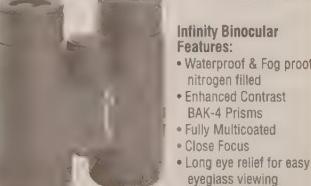
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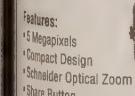
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September 22nd, 2004

4:30pm - 6:30pm Shoot Demonstration

6:45pm - 9:00pm John Isaac at Shadelands Campus

Shadelands Campus, 111 North Wiget Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94546

Please sign up in advance.

Meet Olympus Visionary John Isaac and discover the power of digital photography with the world's first 100% all-digital interchangeable SLR System. John Isaac will discuss the creative and technical elements of his work. This free seminar includes a live shooting demonstration.

To RSVP, please e-mail Mike Reed at: mikereed@reedscameras.com

For more information about John Isaac, please visit: www.johnisaac.com

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Style and substance. In any kind of weather.

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All Free Offers with
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knowing you've selected the very best for the
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up to
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Large 16"x16"
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Events

STAGE

CALIFORNIA SHAKESPEARE THEATER — "The Importance of Being Earnest" by Oscar Wilde, closing Sept. 5. A seriously funny romantic comedy.

\$27 to \$52 general; \$25 to \$52 seniors; \$13 to \$52 youths ages 4 to 16; \$10 "young and cheap" tickets for ages 30 and younger for Tuesday through Friday performances, day of performance only. Tuesday through Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sunday, 4 p.m. Burns Memorial Amphitheater, 100 Highway Blvd. (state Highway 24, Shakespeare Festival Way/Gateway Exit), Orinda. Free shuttle from the Orinda Bart Station 510-548-9666 or www.calshakes.org/

CENTRAL WORKS THEATER ENSEMBLE — "The Mysterious Mr. Looney" by Gary Graves, closing Aug. 29. A play about a man who supposedly wrote the plays of Shakespeare, set in 1920 in the English countryside manor of a famed Shakespeare biographer. \$8 to \$20. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. (510)558-1381 or www.centralworks.com

FREE SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK 2004 — "Twelfth Night" by William Shakespeare, through Aug. 29. Shakespeare's comedy about unrequited passions and mistaken identity. The performances feature live music by an on-stage ensemble.

Free. Saturday and Sunday, 4 p.m. Duck Pond Meadow in Lakeside Park on Lake Merritt, Perkins Street and Grand Avenue, Oakland. www.fshakes.org

LA VAL'S SUBTERRANEAN THEATRE — "Fluffy Bunnies in a Field of Daisies" by Matt Chaffee, Aug. 27 through Oct. 2. A frank sexual and comedic look at misconceptions and game-playing between men and women.

\$15 general; \$10 students and seniors. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. 1634 Euclid Ave., Berkeley. 510-464-4468 or www.impacttheatre.com

OAKLAND BOX THEATER — "The Oakland Poetry Slam," third Thursdays, 8 p.m. to midnight. An open-mic poetry and music event followed by a performance by touring poets of national acclaim. The night ends with a poetry slam in which poets compete

to get to the finals for a place on the Oakland Slam Team. 510-331-5665 \$5 to \$7. 1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-451-1932 or www.oaklandbox.com

THE SAN FRANCISCO MIME TROUPE — "Showdown at Crawford Gulch" by Michael Gene Sullivan, Jason Sherbundy and Bruce Barthol, through Sept. 26. Intended to offer a parallel to modern conflicts, the troupe presents the world premiere of an original fable about lies, greed and double-crossing in a dusty town in 1886.

Aug. 28 and Aug. 29: Willard Park, Hillegas Avenue and Derby Street, Berkeley. Free. Unless otherwise noted, live music at 1:30 p.m.; shows begin at 2 p.m. (415) 285-1717 or www.smft.org

SHOTGUN PLAYERS — "The Caucasian Chalk Circle" by Bertolt Brecht, closing Aug. 29. The story of two mothers who claim the same child. A decision must be made between a stranger who risked everything and the mother who abandoned her child and changed her mind.

Donation. Saturday and Sunday, 4 p.m. John Hinkel Park, Southampton Avenue, Berkeley. 510-841-6500 or www.shotgunplayers.org

WOODMINSTER AMPHITHEATER — "Flower Drum Song," Sept. 3 through Sept. 12. The Bay Area premiere of a David Henry Hwang adaptation of the classic musical by Rodgers and Hammerstein.

\$19 to \$31 general; \$17 to \$29 seniors and children ages 16 and under.

Thursday through Sunday, 8 p.m. Joaquin Miller Park, 3300 Joaquin Miller Road, Oakland. 510-531-9597 or www.woodminster.com

POPULAR MUSIC

ALBATROSS PUB — Kuyepipex, Sept. 4 \$3

Whiskey Brothers, first, third and fifth Wednesdays. Free.

Unless otherwise noted, shows begin

Wednesdays, 9 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 p.m. 1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-2473 or www.albatrosspub.com

ASHKENAZ — Dub Congress, Dub FX, Aug. 27, 9:30 p.m.\$13.

West African Highlife Band, Aug. 28, 9:30 p.m.\$13.

Gerard Landry and the Lariats, Sept. 1, 8:30 p.m. \$9.

Tropical Vibrations, Sept. 3, 8:30 p.m.

\$13

Native Elements, Sept. 4, 9:30 p.m. \$13

Wawa Sylvestre and the Oneness Kingdom, Sept. 5, 8 p.m. \$13.

1317 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley. 510-525-5054 or www.ashkenaz.com

BECKETT'S IRISH PUB — Mundaze, Aug. 27.

Nicole and the Sisters in Soul, Sept. 1

Connie and Friends, Sept. 2

"Beckett's 1st Annual Battle of the Bands" with The Fated, The Skindivers, Thriving Ivory, Wally, Sept. 3, 6 p.m.

Free. For ages 21 and older. Music at 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

2271 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-647-1790 or www.beckettsirishpub.com

BLAKE'S ON TELEGRAPH — KGB, Ashlon and the Sex, The Look, Aug. 27.

SLA, Bodies in the Basement, The Losing Streaks, The Husbands, Aug. 28. \$7

"Monday Night All Star Jam" with The Steve Gannon Band and Mz. Dee, Mondays. \$4.

"Acoustic Wednesday" with Milk Lee Prasad and guests, 10 p.m. Free.

For ages 21 and older. Music begins at 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

2367 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-0866 or www.blakesonetelegraph.com

COFFEE FOR THOUGHT — Ariel, first

Friday of the month.

Skalawag, third Friday of the month.

Free. Shows begin at 8 p.m. unless

noted otherwise. 1544 Webster St., Alameda. 510-769-4930 or www.coffeeforthought.net

DOWNTOWN RESTAURANT — Wayne Wallace, Aug. 27.

Deanna Witkowski with the Anton Schwartz Trio, Aug. 28.

Brian Melvin Trio, Sept. 3

Sylvia and the Silvertones, Sept. 4.

Dick Conta, Tuesdays through August.

Jules Brouillard, Ned Boynton and Bing Nathan, Wednesdays through September.

Gini Wilson Solo Piano, Thursdays through September.

Free. Music begins Tuesday and

Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Thursday through

Saturday, 9 p.m. unless noted otherwise.

2101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-649-3810 or 510-597-0633

FREIGHT AND SALVAGE — Tom Rush, Aug. 27. \$20.50 to \$21.50.

"The Great Night of Rumi," Aug. 28. \$18.50 to \$19.50.

Peppino D'Agostino, Aug. 29. \$16.50 to

\$17.50.

Music starts at 8 p.m. unless otherwise

noted. 1111 Addison St., Berkeley.

510-548-1781, (866) 468-3399 or www.freightandsalvage.org

GREEK THEATRE — Jack Johnson, Aug. 27, 7 p.m. \$35.

O.A.R., Aug. 28, 6 p.m. \$30.

"Bob Marley Roots Rock Reggae Festi-

val," Aug. 29, 1 p.m. \$35.50

UC Berkeley, Hearst Avenue and Gayley Road, Berkeley. 510-444-TIXS, (415) 421-TIXS, www.cc.com or www.ticketmaster.com

HISTORIC SWEET'S BALLROOM —

"Friday Night Fish Fry," Aug. 27, 7 p.m. to midnight. Fresh seafood, a

full bar, and music by Faye Carol and the Off the Hook Blues Band. For

ages 21 and over.

\$20 dinner and show; \$12 show only.

1933 Broadway, Oakland. 510-893-3500

HOME GROWN BLUES SERIES —

Through Sept. 1. A free evening concert series in downtown Oakland to

take residents back to the days of

great blues clubs. Presented by the

Bay Area Blues Society and PSAI Old

Oakland.

Caravan of Allstars, Sept. 1

Free. Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Ninth Street and Broadway, down-

town Oakland. 510-836-2227 or 510-

238-1630

KIMBALLS EAST — Willie and Lobo,

through Aug. 29. \$28.

Unwrapped, Sept. 3 through Sept. 5

\$30

Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10

p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.

6005 Shellmold St., Emeryville. 510-762-BASS, 510-658-2555. www.ticketweb.com or www.kimballs.com

LA PENA CULTURAL CENTER — Bay

World, Aug. 27, 8 p.m. \$10.

Julio Bravo, Aug. 28, 8 p.m. \$15

"Domingo de Rumba," Sept. 3, 3:30

p.m. A community participatory event

featuring Afro-Cuban folkloric drums,

dances and songs of rumba. In the

cafe lobby. Free.

3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568 or www.lapena.org

924 GILMAN ST. — Lights Out, The

Physical Challenge, Countdown to

Life, Shook Ones, Odeon, Aug. 27

The Phenomenauts, Harold Ray Live in

Concert, The Peppermints, Str Spix,

S.C.A., Aug. 28

Naked Aggression, Toxic Narcotic, Mid-

night Creeps, New Earth Creeps,

Sept. 3, \$6.

T.S.O.L., Wormwood, Bloody Phoenix,

Midnightmare, Sept. 4 \$6

Skit Series, Desolation, Blown to Bits,

Sept. 5, 5 p.m. \$6

All ages welcome. Shows are \$5 and

start at 8 p.m. unless otherwise

noted. 924 Gilman St., Berkeley. 510-

525-9926 or www.924gilman.org

OAKLAND ARENA — Hilary Duff,

Hilary Duff, Aug. 31, 7:30 p.m. \$35 to

\$47.50.

Usher, Sept. 3 and Sept. 4, Friday, 8

p.m.; Saturday, 7 p.m. \$35 to \$85.

Templations 2004, Sept. 5, 8 p.m.

\$45.50 to \$142.75.

Hegenberger Road and Interstate 880,

Oakland. 925-782-2277, 510-782-2277, (415) 478-2277, (408) 998-2277,

(650) 478-2277, (916) 766-2277,

(707) 546-2277 or www.tickets.com

PARAMOUNT THEATRE — Patti La-

belle, Floetry, Sept. 3, 8 p.m.

\$50.75 to \$65.75. 2025 Broadway, Oak-

land. 510-465-6400 or [\[mountaintheatre.com\]\(http://www.mountaintheatre.com\)](http://www.para-</p>
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QUINN'S LIGHTHOUSE — The Star-

board Watch featuring Skip Hender-

son, Thursdays, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

www.ticketsweb.com

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Opens September 3, 2004
September 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12

Woodminster Amphitheater, 8 p.m.

Closing the 38th season will be "Flower Drum Song." Woodminster will be per-

formed by David Henry Hwang's 2002 adaptation of the Rogers & Hammerstein classic.

"Flower Drum Song" is produced by arrangement with the Rodgers & Hammerstein Library. Music is by Richard Rodgers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, and book by Henry Hwang, based on the original by Oscar Hammerstein II and Joseph Fields.

the novel by C.Y. Lee.

For Ticket Info: 510-531-9597

Sponsored by the Hills Newspapers

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When it comes to sushi, one place on the island comes to mind. Come experience why locals & out-of-towners alike flock to Sushi House. Whether you're a fan of modern or traditional Japanese cuisine, Sushi House will delight your senses w/unique, award-winning sushi creations not found elsewhere on either side of the Bay. You've tried the rest. Now try the best! All seafood is delivered daily to ensure unrivaled quality & freshness. Showcasing these excellent beginnings are chef/owner James' own creations such as "Crazy Horse" - tuna, hamachi, salmon & avocado; "Crazy Monkey" - yellow tail, salmon, eel, tobiko and cucumber; & "Dynamite" - yellow tail, salmon, tuna & halibut deep fried w/house special sauce - spicy! Frequent Sushi House diners John & Sallie Crittenden agreed that "James is a real artist & his sushi is the freshest we've ever tasted." Sushi House is open nonstop from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday & 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays. Plenty of free parking. From an intimate date to a big celebration, Sushi House is the hip & trendy place to be in Alameda! AE MC VS \$5 W

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Check accepted

Reservations recommended

Wheelchair access

Entrées under \$7

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Entrées \$30+

Entrées \$35+

Entrées \$40+

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Floorwide Sale and Clearance

A unique difference awaits you at Environments. By directly manufacturing, importing, and selling from our production facility, we offer distinctive home furnishings at affordable prices.

60%

30%

Beginning August 28th and running through September, we will be offering our entire selection of dining room furniture at even further discounts.

Warehouse doors are open Mon-Sat 10-5 and Sun 12-6.

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PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Legal Notice**NOTICE OF APPLICATION
TO SELL
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

Date of Filing Application:

JUNE 23, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

The Applicant(s) is/are:

DODGEMAN, INC.

SOUNGPAWA SOUAVANH

The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at:

2042 UNIVERSITY AVE
BERKELEY, CA 94704

Type of license(s) applied for:

41 - On-Sale Beer and Wine - Eating Place

Legal

Berkeley Voice

#1451

Publish August 13, 20, 27,

2004

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PETITION
TO ADMINISTER
ESTATE OF
MURIEL G. FORMICHELLIMURIEL NO. RPD4186831
Total amount due to creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may obtain rights against the estate, or the will or estate, or both of MURIEL G. FORMICHELLI, deceased

A PETITION FOR PROBATE

has been filed by REAPER

HACKLEY in the Superior

Court of California, County

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE

requires that REAPER

be appointed as personal

representative to administer

the estate of MURIEL

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The PETITION requests

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as personal representative

to administer the estate of

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that REAPER be appointed

as personal representative

to administer the estate of

MURIEL G. FORMICHELLI,

deceased

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Opera another musical avenue for Byrne

Andrew Gilbert
CONTRIBUTOR

Carlo isn't the first musician one might associate with Talking Heads frontman David Byrne. He would probably rank new polka and zydeco on his influences that have put him into his voracious palette — far below world-be-samba and the various gypsy styles that he's introduced to U.S. audiences through the popular compilation on his Luaka Bop label.

Byrne's latest album, "Grown Backwards," his debut on the prestigious Nonesuch label, indeed features the artist acquitting himself remarkably well. According to Byrne, "I opened the door to a more oppositional approach, an idea that occasionally led me to explore melody and emotion yet as a solo artist.

"It was the Verdi aria that I chose before most of the other songs on the record," Byrne said in Spokane, Wash., during the second leg of an American tour that took him to UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall tonight. "I think it became a key to how I could really approach the material going to write."

Back to his years with Talking Heads, Byrne has found rhythmic motifs for song inspiration, building them from a groove. But he also finds spontaneous snippets of melody while wandering in Glasgow, London and New York, hummings wordlessly into a cassette recorder. He's set about transcribing and weaving together the fragments, what he's recorded messages to myself staying with friends.

David Byrne has penned some of the more lyrical songs on his new pop music — Talking Heads classics like "This Must Be the Life" doesn't generally have a melodic impulse. This emotional stance as an intellectual argument that implicates melody in a way it's tended to hog the Western music.

He thinks that when it comes to precedence, it's melody, he says. "I can bring that some of my own stuff."

On new songs including "Glass, Concrete & Stone," "Civilization" and "Astronaut," which features Pamela Kurstin on theremin, Byrne is at his best, combining his wide-eyed look at contemporary life with his oddly affecting crooning. In embracing his inner songbird, Byrne gave free rein to his considerable gifts as a tunesmith. Working with arranger Stephen Barber and the Austin-based Tosca Strings, a sextet that's accompanying him on this tour, Byrne is both exploring material from the Heads book, while delivering his lively, often terrifically catchy new songs.

"Grown Backwards" is particularly successful in the way Byrne has created highly textured arrangements, the culmi-

PREVIEW



"I REALIZED THERE'S an incredible variety of things that strings can do, like any other instrument," said David Byrne, whose latest album is titled "Grown Backwards."

WHO: David Byrne

■ WHEN: 8 tonight

■ WHERE: Zellerbach Hall, Bancroft Way at Telegraph Avenue, UC Berkeley

■ HOW MUCH: \$45

■ CONTACT: 925-685-8497, www.ticketmaster.com

nation of years of experimenting with strings. Avoiding the numerous pop-music clichés that threaten diabetics whenever strings appear, Byrne and Barber incorporate the group's three violins, two cellos and viola as part of the band, which also features Byrne's longtime collaborator, Brazilian percussionist Mauro Refosco, bassist Paul Frazier and, on the tour, drummer Graham Hawthorne.

"I realized there's an incredibly variety of things that strings can do, like any other instrument," Byrne said. "They can play things that really rock out, or things that are incredibly heart-wrenching. They can work with percussion. They can take the place of guitars and keyboards, instead of being this wash of syrup that gets poured on top of them."

Much of the album's rhythmic sinew flows from Refosco, who effortlessly distills many of the Afro-Brazilian grooves that have found their way into Byrne's music in recent years. But while his feelings about Brazilian music are unconflicted, Byrne describes his Talking Heads repertoire in decidedly ambivalent terms. ("It's kind of a confused relationship," he says.) Both as a matter of pride and as a means of pleasing fans, he includes more than half-a-dozen songs from the Heads book in each show, though he doesn't hesitate to rework them. The point isn't to make them un-

recognizable, a la Bob Dylan's frequent treatment of his hits. Rather, Byrne interprets the old tunes through the lens of his latest project.

"I'm aware that some of them are real crowd-pleasers, as they should be," Byrne says. "But I'm also aware that if I do too many of them, I become an oldies act. I think people expect me to mix things up, and do something new. Now we have a couple of Talking Heads songs that have string arrangements. 'Psycho Killer' sounds more scary with strings than it ever did with a band."

slightly different way. It can be a slightly different kind of emotional or psychological catharsis. I enjoy that in other people's songs; I thought maybe I can bring that some of my own stuff."

On new songs including "Glass, Concrete & Stone," "Civilization" and "Astronaut," which features Pamela Kurstin on theremin, Byrne is at his best, combining his wide-eyed look at contemporary life with his oddly affecting crooning. In embracing his inner songbird, Byrne gave free rein to his considerable gifts as a tunesmith. Working with arranger Stephen Barber and the Austin-based Tosca Strings, a sextet that's accompanying him on this tour, Byrne is both exploring material from the Heads book, while delivering his lively, often terrifically catchy new songs.

"Grown Backwards" is particularly successful in the way Byrne has created highly textured arrangements, the culmi-

resident Natalie Amaya as Mei Li, Lafayette's Michael Ching as Wang Chi-Yang, Wallace Choy from Richmond as Chin, and Paul Martinez from Glendale as Ta. Brandon Adams is the musical director.

Harriet Schlader remembers the last time Woodminster put on "Flower Drum Song" a decade ago. "That cast was a stand out," she says, "in terms of the camaraderie and their tremendous generosity toward one another. And this looks like it's going to be the same thing."

The Schlader family has encouraged the love of live theater throughout the Bay Area for nearly four decades. And an

evening under the stars, surrounded by fragrant cedars and towering oaks, the rush of the waterfalls, and the Writer's Memorial Grove of trees named after Mark Twain, Bret Harte, Jack London and others, is a lovely way to get a sense of the Oakland community. After all, Woodminster Amphitheater was dedicated in 1941, and above its door reads a plaque: "To inspire and advance the noblest aims of mankind."

Suzanne LaFeta is a freelance writer in Berkeley. You can reach her at suzlanfeta@yahoo.com

HILLS NEWSPAPERS REAL ESTATE & HOME



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BEST SELLERS

Compiled from sales at 45 independent bookstores in Northern California.

Fiction

1. "The Da Vinci Code," by Dan Brown. (Doubleday, \$24.95.)
2. "Skinny Dip," by Carl Hiaasen. (Knopf, \$24.95.)
3. "Dark Voyage," by Alan Furst. (Random House, \$24.95.)
4. "R Is for Ricochet," by Sue Grafton. (Putnam, \$26.95.)
5. "The Jane Austen Book Club," by Karen Joy Fowler. (Putnam, \$23.95.)
6. "The Rule of Four," by Ian Caldwell and Dustin Thomas. (Dial, \$24.)
7. "The Five People You Meet in Heaven," by Mitch Albom. (Hyperion, \$19.95.)
8. "The Birth of Venus," by Sarah Dunant. (Random House, \$21.95.)
9. "Checkpoint," by Nicholson Baker. (Knopf, \$15.95.)
10. "The Full Cupboard of Life," by Alexander McCall Smith. (Pantheon, \$19.95.)

Nonfiction

1. "Eats, Shoots and Leaves," by Lynne Truss. (Gotham, \$17.50.)
2. "Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim," by David Sedaris. (Little, Brown, \$24.95.)
3. "What's the Matter with Kansas?" by Thomas Frank. (Metropolitan, \$24.95.)
4. "Bushworld," by Maureen Dowd. (Putnam, \$25.95.)
5. "The South Beach Diet," by Arthur Agatston. (Rodale, \$24.95.)
6. "Imperial Hubris," by Anonymous. (Brasseys, \$27.50.)
7. "My Life," by Bill Clinton. (Knopf, \$35.)
8. "Obliviously On He Salts," by Calvin Trillin. (Random House, \$12.95.)
9. "Who Let the Dogs In?" by Molly Ivins. (Random House, \$22.95.)
10. "Losing America," by Robert C. Byrd. (Norton, \$23.95.)

Trade paperback fiction

1. "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time," by Mark Haddon. (Vintage, \$12.)
2. "Middlesex," by Jeffrey Eugenides. (Picador, \$15.)

Mass market paperback

1. "Angels & Demons," by Dan Brown. (Pocket, \$7.99.)
2. "A Place of Hiding," by Elizabeth George. (Bantam, \$7.99.)
3. "Deception Point," by Dan Brown. (Pocket, \$7.99.)
4. "The 9/11 Commission Report," by National Commission on Terrorist Attacks. (St. Martin's, \$6.99.)
5. "Digital Fortress," by Dan Brown. (St. Martin's, \$7.99.)

Northern California Independent Booksellers Association

NOT SURE WHAT TO COOK THIS WEEKEND?



SOMEONE NOT REALLY HER MOTHER

A Novel
HARRIET SCOTT CHESSMAN

Author of
LYDIA CASSATT READING
THE MORNING PAPER

Literary Night in Montclair

A Great Good Place for Books
6120 La Salle Ave., Montclair Village
510-339-8210

Someone Not Really Her Mother

By Harriet Scott Chessman

at

A Great Good Place for Books
Thursday, September 16, 7-8:30 p.m.
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Arts & Leisure

Friday, August 27, 2004



BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

TV crime buffs can see double

THE NATIONAL NIELSEN TV ratings and those in the Bay Area don't usually match up — often, far from it. For example, during most of this summer (before NBC's Olympics, that is), CBS' "60 Minutes" was the top-ranked show here most weeks. But the durable magazine show doesn't do as well nationally.

The top two shows in most of the country in recent weeks, on the other hand, have been CBS' "CSI" (No. 1) and "CSI: Miami." You can just hear the crime-scene shows' producer, schlockmeister Jerry Bruckheimer ("Top Gun," "Pearl Harbor") salivating as he envisions future syndication revenues.

But "CSI" TV's top-rated drama last season, has also been the second-rated show here in the Bay Area this summer. And "CSI: Miami" is usually somewhere around 12th place, a strong showing. Readers who don't normally watch crime shows often tell me, somewhat sheepishly sometimes, they've become "CSI" junkies.

"CSI" is becoming TV's next big franchise, after NBC's "Law and Order," which will introduce a fourth NBC series next month.

A third "Crime-Scene Investigation" show, "CSI: New York," premieres on Channel 5 in mid-September. Says KPIX program chief Tom Spitz: "'CSI' and 'CSI: Miami' are dominant programs both nationally and in the Bay Area. 'CSI: New York' will likely enjoy the same popularity."

No doubt, I've seen the premiere of "CSI: New York," and its star, Gary Sinise, is predictably strong.

Bruckheimer leaves nothing to chance: The Sept. 22 premiere of "New York" begins with "CSI: Miami's" opening credits and cast, until about halfway through, when Sinise and company appear.

Viewers of the "New York" pilot next month will get the unusual sight of laconic "CSI: Miami" star David Caruso's return to New York City as a TV crime-fighter. You may recall that it was Caruso's ill-advised departure from "NYPD Blue" after that hit ABC cop series' rookie season do movies that nearly killed the redheaded actor's career — until "CSI: Miami" surfaced.

In the two "CSI" series, it's mostly the technicians and not detectives who engage in gunfights, investigations, crowd control. It's all a bit silly. But in the "CSI" shows, the real stars are the equipment — mass spectrometers, DNA sequencers, fingerprint illuminators and database computers. Even scientists charge that one of the "CSI" shows' main flaws is that all its science is above reproach.

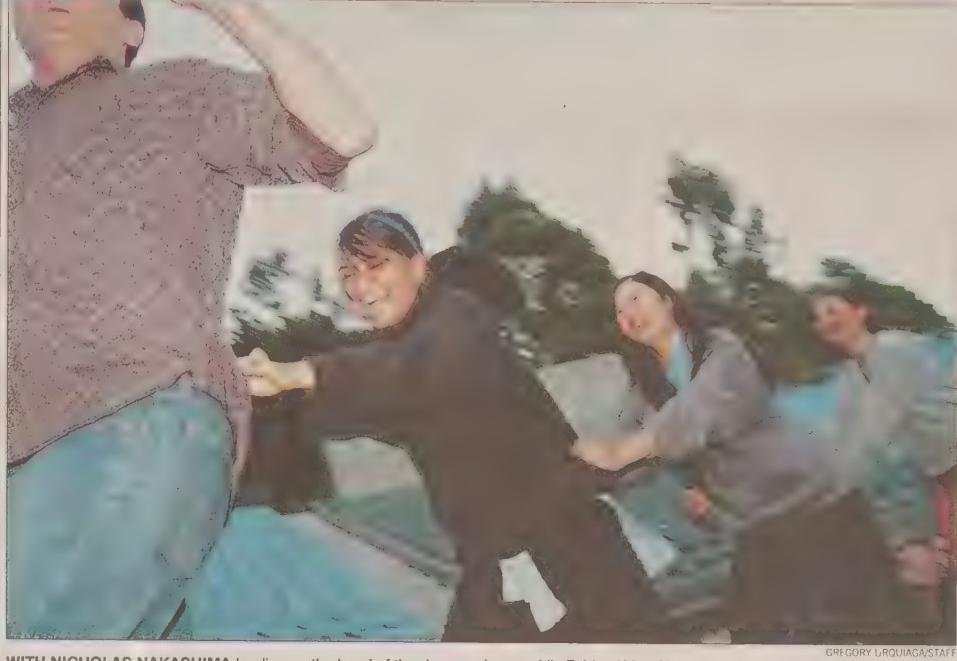
Lawyers and judges are now complaining about what's being called "the CSI effect." So many people are watching Bruckheimer's silly shows that in Massachusetts, for example, prosecutors have begun asking judges' permission to question prospective jurors about their TV-watching habits. College officials report the number of students majoring in forensic sciences has jumped recently.

I cringe every time I hear dialogue like "drains are the conscience of the city." It's Bruckheimer at his predictable worst — whiz-bang science for the masses.

MEDIA NOTES: KCBS Radio's senior news anchor, Steve Little, admits that his commute — from the San Francisco station all the way up to his house near Healdsburg — has taken a toll the last five years. To say nothing of the hours, 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. So capable newscaster Little has cut back, and is now news anchoring weekends only....

"The Daily Show's" coverage of the GOP convention on Comedy Central at 11 p.m. ("InDecision '04") next week will be, just as it was during the Dems' confab, indispensable. So why will it be a day late, as it was in Boston? It takes time after convention events to write quality comedy material.

Questions? Comments? e-mail Bill: Newsmann@sonic.net



WITH NICHOLAS NAKASHIMA leading as the head of the dragon, dancers Lily Felder, Krista Yu and others trail in a dance step as the body of the dragon as they rehearse "Flower Drum Song," Woodminster's last show of the summer.

GREGORY URQUAGA/STAFF

Outdoor theater is for families

■ Final musical of the season for Woodminster is updated version of a Rodgers, Hammerstein's "Flower Drum Song"

By Suzanne LaFetra
CORRESPONDENT

"Anybody who ever came to this theater on a night like tonight, would definitely come back," says Joel Schlader, director of Woodminster Amphitheater's "Flower Drum Song," which opens Sept. 3, the final musical of the season.

And it's easy to see why.

Ringed by the lush Joaquin Miller Park, the Woodminster Amphitheater is a WPA-era, art-deco gem. On a clear summer evening, theatergoers can bring a picnic dinner, watch the sun melt over the Bay and enjoy a night of musical theater. Harriet and Jim Schlader have been running the summer productions for 38 years, and their son Joel is directing this production.

The Schladers have made sure that Woodminster is a place for families. Woodminster's public relations director Kathy Kahn says that three generations of Bay Area theatergoers have enjoyed Woodminster's productions.

"People talk about how they remember when they first came here, they would fall asleep listening to the music, and then as they got older, they started paying attention to the shows, and now they're bringing their own kids here," she says. The outdoor setting is perfect for families; kids can run around in the park or cozy up in a blanket.

Says Joel Schlader, "If you have a baby, you can still see the show and you won't disturb anyone." And he should know — he's got a two-week-old baby girl.

Kathy Kahn is a self-proclaimed "Oakland convert," and she calls Woodminster "a very special Oakland place." She says it's a relatively undiscovered arts



CHOREOGRAPHER JODY JARON instructs dancers on a routine.

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resource in Oakland. "There are many long-time, faithful audience members," she says, and Kahn is hoping that "Flower Drum Song" will introduce even more Bay Area residents to the theater.

The Schladers run the non-profit theater with an eye on serving the community. It sells more individual tickets annually than any other resident Oakland performance group. The organization has a program called "Kids Come Free," and for their most recent show, "Annie," 1,001 children attended a performance for free. "For many, it's their first live theater," says Kahn.

Woodminster's final produc-

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Flower Drum Song at Woodminster Amphitheater

WHEN: Sept. 3-5 and 10-12 at 8 p.m.

WHERE: Woodminster Amphitheater, Joaquin Miller Park 3300 Joaquin Miller Road, Oakland

HOW MUCH: \$19-\$31, \$2 discount for children and seniors

INFORMATION: 510-531-9597 or www.woodminster.com

tion of the season is a Bay Area premiere of David Henry Hwang's "Flower Drum Song." Originally based on a 1957 novel by C.Y. Lee, "Flower Drum Song" opened in 1958, the first Broadway show with an all-Asian cast.

Hwang is a Tony Award-winning playwright, and decided to update "Flower Drum Song." He says that the original show was very daring for its time but feels like a tourist's-eye view of Chinatown, as opposed to something viewed from the inside out.

Kahn agrees that the original show had some problems. "It's kind of fallen out of favor in recent years because it was kind of clumsy in the handling of the Asian personalities." Hwang's 2002 version "honors the original show, but brought it into the 21st century," she says.

See 'FLOWER', Page C11

27 authors raise funds for state arts group

By Robert Taylor
STAFF WRITER

Gerald Haslam was a soft touch when an editor asked him to contribute without pay to a book of travel essays that would raise money for the budget-drained California Arts Council.

"I would have sold books out on the corner for them, even without my work in it," said the Sonoma County author, who once received an Arts Council grant. Haslam wrote "Almost Home" for the collection, the story of a trip to the Kern County town of Oildale where he grew up.

The account of that journey — including a spectacular sunset caused by air pollution — is typical of the essays that avoid Golden State clichés in "My California," edited by Donna Wares and published by Angel City Press of Santa Monica.

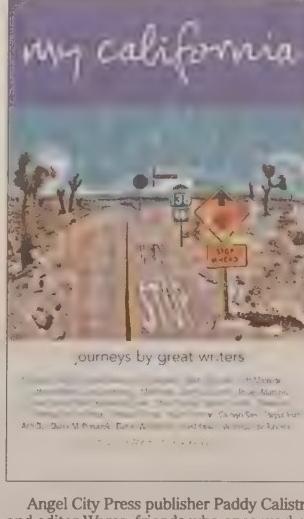
It's a success so far — the 5,000-copy first edition is nearly sold out — and will generate thousands of dollars for the California Arts Council. A second edition is likely.

The state agency's budget was cut severely last year and again this year.

About \$700,000 was pulled from the council's usual operating expenses, used to help support nonprofit arts groups around the state, according to interim director Juan Carrillo.

For the first edition of "My California," released in June, even the printers donated their services, meaning the publisher's share of the \$16.95 sale price could go entirely to the Arts Council. Usually, about half the purchase price is returned to the publisher, so that could translate to more than \$40,000 from the first edition.

It's a surprising windfall. "Gifts to the California Arts Council are pretty rare," Carrillo said. "When I first read the letter offering us all revenues from the book, I said, 'What's the catch?'"



Angel City Press publisher Paddy Calistro and editor Wares, friends who once worked at the Los Angeles Times, came up with the plan last fall, when state budget cutbacks were devastating arts funding.

"We first toyed with the idea of individual donations, but that seemed so inadequate," Calistro said. "Then we thought, why don't we do a book?"

They networked through a Who's Who of California authors, and eventually 27 contributed to "My California."

Michael Chabon, in an essay that first appeared in Gourmet magazine, writes about Berkeley: "Where passion is mar-

READ IT

■ "My California," edited by Donna Wares, 208 pages, \$16.95, is available at bookstores or through www.CaliforniaAuthors.com or the California Arts Council, www.cac.ca.gov.

ried to intelligence, you may find genius, neurosis, madness or rapture."

Poet devorah major recalls San Francisco's Playland-at-the-Beach in "Cotton Candy Mirrors." Anh Do describes Orange County's Vietnamese community in "My Little Saigon."

Wares is gratified that so many first-rate writers donated their work to help raise money for the Arts Council.

"The book is really about the California literary community coming together to call attention to the arts — and saying that they have to be a priority," she said. "Most people don't understand that in California's budget crisis, the arts have been a major casualty." Currently, she notes, the state spends 3 cents per capita on support for the arts.

Profits from the book will not finance the Arts Council's usual art, music and dance programs. Instead, it might help set up a new program such as the California Poets in the Schools project, which once received the Arts Council's largest grant. Or it could be used to get a new literacy program on its feet.

"I'm looking for a new way to use this money," Carrillo said. "It could bring writers together with young people in any number of ways — in community settings, in schools, or with libraries as partners."

Reach Robert Taylor at 925-977-8428 or taylor@cctimes.com.

Dreams true on

Fairytales, staple of fairytale, but true Mary Zimmerman's Secret in the Wings, Berkeley Rep's Sept. 8. Previous This stage tales, retold to immerse the realm of back to fairy helps to explain.

"I've always loved tales," the playwright thinks they perhaps theater rather than way around. As wanted to invent that could record so I could watch morning... That's mine. I can come to life and around me.

"The Secret" is directed by Zimmerman at the Rep's Roda Addison St., Berkeley, Oct. 17. Call 510-547-1046 toll-free, 888-482-2764. Next Friday, Sept. 3, p.m., the Rep's stage presents "Teen Night" at the Rep's Roda Addison St., Berkeley, to the theater.

Tickets are \$35 for

adults, \$20 for teens. For reservation information, call 510-547-1046 or www.auroraarts.org.

AURORA ARTS BACK: Aurora Arts opens its 11th year with "Aeschylus' "The Persians." The Greek play's first-hand account of wars, written 2500 B.C. and the earliest surviving Western literary

play instead of history.

Barbara Oliver, founder, is directing the story and playwright Lincoln Lin. (You may remember the original "Angels in America.")

Previews are on

Aug. 8 at 8 p.m. and Sept. 1, 8 p.m. Only plays Wednesday days at 8 p.m., Sunday and 7 p.m., Thursday.

Aeschylus was

written to add a creating dramatic performances had been little more than orations probably the codicil thick-solded performers appear heroic. Early

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Aeschylus was

Friday Auto Plus

cars.com

vising supplement to The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, August 27, 2004

Section D



FROM FRONT TO REAR: When Jaguar designed the long wheelbase, 5 inches were added to benefit the rear seat passengers. Even limousines don't contain the thoughtfulness that is in the XJ.

Long wheelbase Jaguar benefits rear seat passengers

This is a twofold report on the all-new 2005 Jaguar XJ long wheelbase sedan. First are my impressions as a backseat passenger, then as the driver.

When Jaguar designed the long-wheelbase, five additional inches were added to benefit the rear seat passengers. This area of the car is not like that in other sedans as the entire compartment is surrounded with comforts. Even limousines don't contain the thoughtfulness that is in the XJ.

My tester was the top-of-the-line XJ, the SV8 Vanden Plas model.

XO, the SVE Vanden Plas model

costing \$89,995. The long wheelbase XJ cars begin at \$63,495, but since Jaguar is synonymous with luxury, I zeroed in on the SV8, which is loaded with extravagance. That stated, let's get back to the back-seat.

The rear seats can carry only two passengers because of a console between them. But each person is surrounded with personal comforts, such as upholstered leather power-adjustable heated seats. If I wanted to work on my computer, I had a folding tray. Or if my interest was watching a DVD,

TOM KEANE
Keane on Wheels

— 1 —

the screen was directly in front of me — the other passenger also had a screen.

I've never seen any rear seat with so many thoughtful features. Even the assist handles over the door cushion back into place quietly. However, on some roads, the sound of the tires was nosier than expected. Before driving, I walked around the car absorbing its dis-

tinctive appearance. The additional length gave elements of Jaguar's design of old, a style that women found unexplainably attractive.

Those noisy tires, rotating on 19-inch wheels, proved their worth as I drove the car extremely hard through a slalom course set up to prove the Jag's capabilities. But first, I became acquainted with the SVE by driving more than 100 miles over rural roads, feeling the powerful engine's response to the dictates of my foot and hands.

The supercharged V-8 produces 390 horsepower linked to a six-

speed automatic transmission. The speed-sensitive steering is easy to turn the wheel at low speed, such as when parking, but provides firmer control when driving at higher speed. Even though this is a "long" sedan, it handles more like a mid-

The braking system has an active booster. It also contains all the latest safety features, including side curtain airbags and Dynamic Stability Control. As expected of cars

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Rydlun and his '34 Bentley crossed the Continental Divide six times

Rod Rye found a right-hand-drive 1934 Bentley that had been imported to the United States after World War II by a doctor who permanently parked the car after only two years of use.

After languishing for 17 years in a garage, the vehicle was exhumed by a broker in antique automobiles and was soon in the capable hands of Rydlun, who believes in driving his cars. He has no room for garage or trailer queens.

His first foray was an excursion to the West where he proudly says, "We crossed the Continental Divide six times." People and cars were gasping for air at that altitude but the Bentley's two S.U. carburetors performed flawlessly.

The coachwork is by Mann-Egerton and features a sliding sunroof. The 14.5-foot-long saloon is 5.75 feet wide and rides on a 126-inch wheelbase.

The track of the front wheels, originally shot with 5.50 x 18-inch tires, is 4.66 feet, which permits a turning circle to the right of 40 feet, 11 inches and to the left of 39 feet, 7 inches. "It has a really good turning radius and can be turned around on a four-lane road," Rydlun says.

The 1934 price of the chassis was \$1,325 pounds (British), Rydlun says, and the coachwork was an additional 975 pounds, which he estimates to be about \$12,000, quite a princely sum for an automobile during the worldwide Great Depression.

The inline six-cylinder engine drinks from an 18-imperial gallon gasoline tank and is kept cool by the three imperial gallons of coolant circulating, in addition to the 24 louvers on each side of the engine hood and the 16 moveable vanes in the radiator shell.

The durable engine was rebuilt in 1989 and the springs were re-arched in 1996. The subtle three-tone silver combination was repainted two years later. The fenders are a dark oyster silver, and red pinstripes accentuate the lines of the car.

"It's a nice, cool-running car," Rydlun comments. "It's got great cabin ventilation." The one-piece windshield opens at the bottom to admit fresh air into the cabin.

Road

VERN PARKER
Classic Classics

All four doors have a 2-inch fixed strip of glass that overlays the movable window in each door. When the window is lowered less than 2 inches, fresh air is drawn into the cabin but any rain is kept at bay. "They allow ventilation in the hardest rain," he remarks.

On each side of the car, from that slender strip of metal between the front and rear doors, a lighted semaphore arm springs out to indicate the driver's intention to turn. The 100-mpm speedometer is set in the solid mahogany dashboard. "I've had it up to 93 freewheeling in West Virginia," Rydlun says. "It doesn't complain. It's the best thing in the world for it," he says.

The tachometer redlines at 4,500 rpm. The odometer in 1985 had registered 47,000 miles and in 2004 the instrument shows 107,000 miles.

During the summer, Rydlun and his Bentley will make an 8,000-mile odyssey roughly following the Lewis and Clark expedition's trail to the Pacific Ocean at the Washington/Oregon border. From there he plans to follow the coast down to Monterey, Calif. After that, it's back home to Potomac, Md., via the Grand Canyon and Yosemite National Park.

"I'm a shun piker," he confesses. "Every chance I get, I go on rural roads."

That 70-year-old engine is going to have to climb that Continental Divide again.

With license plates carrying the letters "BULK" Rydlun affectionately calls his well-traveled 1934 Bentley "Hannibul" because it so readily crosses the mountains.

For your car to become the subject of the Classic Classics column, send a photo (frontal 3/4 view) plus brief details and phone number to: Vern Parker, 2221 Abbottsford Drive, Vienna, VA 22181. Only photos of good quality will be considered.

PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY.



HAVING NO ROOM for garage or trailer queens, Rydlun drives his cars. His first foray with the Bentley was an excursion to the West where he proudly says, "We crossed the Continental Divide six times."

Keane

FROM PAGE D1

In this price category, the amenities available to the driver are numerous and convenient. The center console has a navigational screen that provides precise directions both in the city and on rural roads. A 350-watt AM/FM/CD Alpine sound system delivers enjoyable listening, but the real enjoyable sound comes under hard acceleration.

I had opportunities to drive this Jaguar hard on the best slalom course I've ever driven. It was set up to prove the capabilities of the engine and brakes. Jackie Stewart,

the famous racecar driver, introduced me to the slalom. He put the car through its paces with extreme hard acceleration, braking and zigzagging through the cones. It was here that the tires and brakes were given a grueling test.

Then came my turn. After a couple practice runs, I then was timed from start to finish. I didn't set any record nor did I knock over any cones, but I walked away convinced that this Jaguar doesn't have to take a backseat to the best performing cars other manufacturers might offer.

On the other hand, when it comes to back seats, other manufacturers' cars don't begin to compare with this one.

JAGUAR XJ SV8

Vehicle Type Four-passenger, four-door, RWD long

Suggested Retail Price as Tested	\$43,600
Engine Type	V8 Supercharged DOHC 32V
Horsepower	350 @ 6,000
Torque	350 lb-ft @ 4,200
Transmission	5-speed automatic
Wheelbase	110.6
Height	56.5
Curb Weight	4,300
Fuel Capacity	18.5
Mileage	16/22

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MSRP \$16,911. Auto, A/C, Moonroof, Air, SRS, CD \$13,988	MSRP \$17,988. Auto, Air, P.W.D. \$13,988	MSRP \$20,930. Auto, A/C, Moonroof, CD \$17,988

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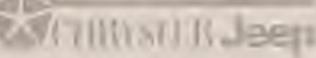
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Volvo S60 should be driven more than it is

JUNIOR DAMATO
A. C. T.

Dear Doctor: My 2003 Volvo S60 with all-wheel drive has 5,200 miles. My problems are a rattle while driving (not just over bumps), poor gas mileage (13 miles per gallon), and water that collects in the ridge around the trunk after I take the car through a car wash. — Stan

Dear Stan: Your all-wheel drive Volvo needs to be driven more than 5,200 miles in a year. Plus,

I hope you park it in a garage and not just sit it outside in the elements. The suspension noise could be a runner sway bar bushing or sway bar link. Your gas mileage for the limited driving sounds normal. The design of many vehicles causes water to collect and run down the trunk ridge.

I do not think there are any major problems with your car — other than it is not being driven enough. If you have a neighbor, relative or friend who can drive the car weekly and on an occasional trip, this would be the best thing for the car.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1997 Ford Taurus purchased new. Current mileage is 150,000. My daughter will be getting her license in less than two years. I am getting a new car this fall and want to save this one for her. I live in Illinois. What would be the best way to save the car till she gets her license? — Elaine

Dear Elaine: Leaving a vehicle sit for a year or more in the weather creates many problems, especially on an older vehicle. If you want to save the car, leave it registered and drive it weekly. The other choice is to rent a dry garage to store the car.

Dear Doctor: Is it safe to use fuel stabilizer in new cars with catalytic converters? — Putman

Dear Putman: Check with the particular brand of fuel stabilizer for the recommendation of its usage. I use it in my vehicles that sit over the winter, including snow blowers, lawn mowers, golf cart, etc. I have made a practice of doubling the recommendations without ever having any problems.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1995 Ford F-150 pickup. I replaced the original battery in October 2003. Prior to the battery replacement there was never a problem with the battery going dead. I went on vacation for two weeks and came back to find a dead battery. I went back to the battery store and the clerk upgraded the battery to a better, more powerful battery. I took another trip out of town and again the battery was dead.

I went to my local shop and had the battery and charging system checked. I was told there was nothing wrong. I know something is wrong, or the battery will not go dead. — Paul

Dear Paul: Something is draining the battery with the key off. The current draw is called parasitic drain. The maximum allowed current drain on most vehicles is 50 millamps. Some new vehicles have up to 75 millamp draw and safety rundown protection.

Other vehicles can have two batteries. To properly check the problem in your vehicle, or any vehicle, the system should be checked with a digital ammeter. I have seen the glove box light stay on and clocks draw too much current. Even alternators that charge properly can cause parasitic drain.

Dear Doctor: I recently purchased a 2004 Chrysler Town & Country minivan. While driving the van about 300 miles, I heard a hum noise at speeds ranging from 10 to 35 mph.

The noise seemed to be in tune with the engine speed. The technician on a road-test said the noise was coming from either the engine or transmission.

He checked the vehicle in the shop and said there were no long-term effects, and the van was covered under warranty. But this situation is an annoyance.

The van I took on the test-drive before the purchase made no noise at all. On another trip to the dealer for a clicking sound, the technician said the noise is a normal sound from the solenoid pack in the transmission. Are new Chrysler minivans supposed to have these noises? These noises are not mentioned in any brochure. — Robert

Dear Robert: Clicking noise associated with the electronic transmission is normal, especially when the driver is

shifting into and out of gear on Chrysler minivans. As for the hum sound, I have driven many Chrysler minivans and have heard some transaxle gear whine at the speeds you describe.

Some are louder than others. These noises should not pose any long-term effect. You may want to ask the dealer to upgrade the warranty.

Send questions to: Auto Doctor, 3 Court Circle, Lakeville, MA 02347

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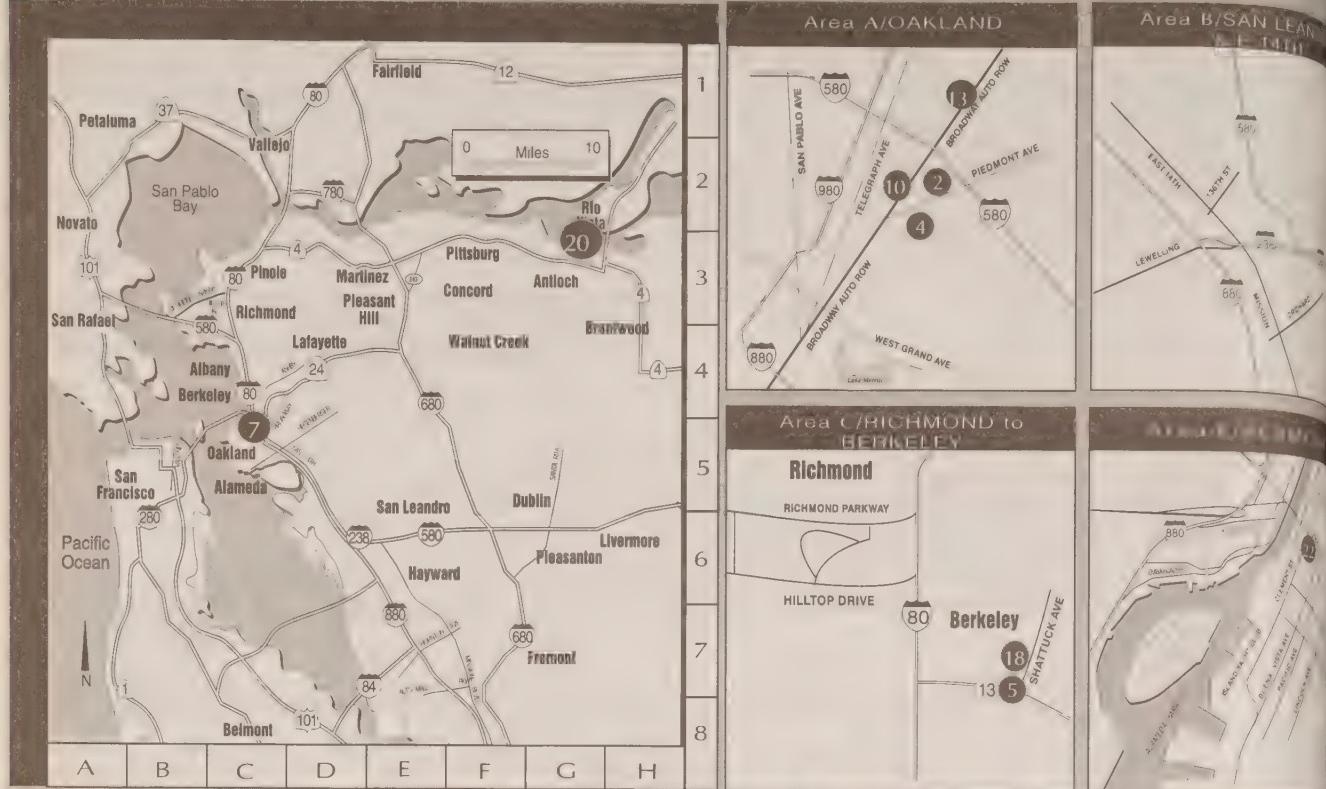
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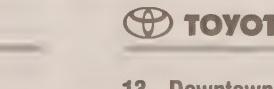
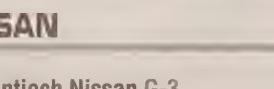
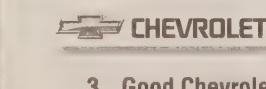
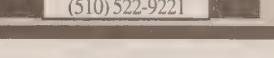
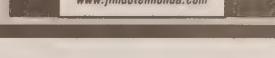
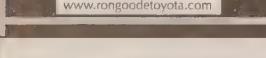
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1630 Park St., Alameda
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1700 Park Street, Alameda
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5. Jim Doten Honda Area C5
2600 Shattuck Avenue • Berkeley
(510) 843-3704
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21. Toyota Vallejo D-2
1180 Admiral Callaghan Way, Vallejo
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PRICES!****'04 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab SLT**

Auto, V8, Power Locks, Power Windows, Alloy Wheels, CD Player, Air Conditioning, Cruise Control, Tilt Wheel Steering, & Much More!

**6 TO CHOOSE
FROM!**

MSRP	\$28,885
Dealer Disc.	-4,890
Factory Rebate	-3,500
Chrysler Financial Bonus Cash*	-1,500

NET COST TO YOU:

\$18,995
6 at this price.**'04 Dodge Dakota Club Cab**

Auto, Tilt, ABS, CD, A/C, & Much More!



MSRP	\$21,910
Dealer Disc.	-3,415
Factory Rebate	-3,500
Chrysler Financial Bonus Cash*	-1,000

\$13,995
1 at this price. ID 679884.**'04 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo**

Auto, Cassette, CD, Alloys, PW, & Much More!



MSRP	\$29,185
Dealer Disc.	4,190
Factory Rebate	-4,000
Chrysler Financial Bonus Cash*	-1,000

\$19,995**1 at this price.** ID 360591.**'05 Dodge Caravan**

7 Passenger, CD, Air Conditioning, & Much More!



MSRP	\$18,995
Dealer Disc.	3,000
Owner Loyalty**	-500
Factory Rebate	-1,000
Chrysler Financial Bonus Cash*	-1,500

\$12,995**4 at this price.**

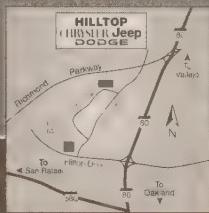
IDs 232431, 232430, 232434, 232429.

'05 Chrysler PT Cruiser Convertible

12 IN STOCK!	
Sale Price	\$19,495
Dealer Disc.	-1,000
Factory Rebate	-500
Chrysler Financial Bonus Cash*	-1,000
Net Cost to You	\$16,995

\$16,995**1 at this price.** ID 342874.

*Must finance with CPC. All vehicles subject to prior sale, plus government fees and taxes, any finance charges, any dealer document preparation charge, and any emission testing charge. Expires 8/29/04. **Owner loyalty - customers who currently own or lease a Chrysler Group brand vehicle and enter into a retail purchase or lease of an eligible model are eligible to participate.

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'04 Ford Ranger

Power Steering, AC & Much More!



MSRP	\$15,395
Dealer Disc.	-2,405
Factory Rebate	-3,000

\$9,990
2 at this price. IDs A62546, B65726.**'04 Ford F250 SuperCab XLT 4x4**

Auto, A/C, Running Boards, Tow Package, & Much More!



Dealer Disc.	6,000
Factory Rebate	3,000
FMCC Bonus Cash*	1,000

\$10,000
1 at this discount. ID A05699.**'04 Ford Explorer XLS**

Auto, A/C, PW, PL, CD, Running Boards, & Much More!



MSRP	\$28,630
Dealer Disc.	-4,640
Factory Rebate	-4,000
FMCC Bonus Cash*	-1,000

\$18,990**1 at this price.** ID C36437.**'04 Ford Mustang Coupe**

Auto, PW, PL, CD, Alloys, & Much More!



MSRP	\$19,305
Dealer Disc.	-3,810
Factory Rebate	-2,500

\$12,995
1 at this price. ID 189812.**'04 Ford F-150 SuperCab XLT**

Tow Package, CD, PW, PL, & Much More!



MSRP	\$28,995
Dealer Disc.	-3,000
Factory Rebate	-1,500
FMCC Bonus Cash*	-1,500

\$19,990**1 at this price.** ID C45217.**'04 Ford Expedition XLT**

V8, A/C, PW, PL, CD, & Much More!



MSRP	\$33,295
Dealer Disc.	-5,735
Factory Rebate	-4,000
FMCC Bonus Cash*	-1,000

\$22,560**1 at this price.** ID B91776.

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**★ 18BDRM ADAMS POINT ★
Nr Grand Lake Theater
shops & lake, patio,
gated, 2bd, grnd-prk.
\$950. 360 Monte Vista
510-268-6757**

**★ 1BDRM Mr. Piedmont. ★
D/W, gar, p/rkt, balcony, transp
\$975. 360 Monte Vista
510-599-6757**

**2BD/1BA \$1100 East
Oakland.** 2 story Gor
good cond., all apps,
W/D, quiet, a/c, 4-pet.
510-888-4475

**2BD/1BA \$100 Laurel
District.** New off. Cpt.
\$1000. 510-599-8153

**2BD/1BA all utility pd,
Indry, on site, close to
Glenview area. Mo. to
mo. \$550. 510-882-5192**

**2BD/1BA Diamond Dis-
trict.** 2bd, 1ba, views,
gas range, w/d in
unit, \$1600/mo. A
Must See! 510-599-5555

**2 BD/1A, NL 100 Merritt
Dr.** 2bd, 1ba, quiet, transp
print. Pets neg. \$1000/mo +
see. 510-836-1580/cf

2BD/1BA Spac. hdwd.
flrs. Off-st. p/kg. Close
to transp. \$840. 54th St.
\$1200. 510-428-0986

**2BD/1BA \$1259 near
Piedmont.** 2bd, 1ba, King.
510-553-4905

**2BD/2A Adams Pt.
spac, sunny, lots of
closets** \$1450 510-708-3022

**2BD/2A NR Piedmont,
Bld.** 2bd, 1ba, quiet, transp
\$1400/mo. 510-597-1404

**★ 2BD/2A Nr Piedmont ★
near cpt, patio, sauna
gated, 2bd, grnd-prk.,
S.F. transp. \$1245
360 Monte Vista
510-599-6757**

2BD/2A LakeShore Area,
510-553-4905

**2BD/2A Norman Temple
Deluxe 4-pex w/View
of bay, no pets, good
cond., quiet, a/c, 4-pet.
510-530-3731**

2BDRM. Near Piedmont
New cpt., blkr., grnd-prk.
incl. Cat ok. Indry. \$195
360 Monte Vista
Apt. 510-444-0875

**★ 2 Bed NEAR Lake Merrit ★
Pool, gar., p/rkt, Cpt.
Lndry, 2bd, 1ba, S.F.
transp. \$1245
360 Monte Vista
510-599-6757**

**2BD/2A Lake Merrit
Area.** 2bd, 1ba, quiet, a/c,
E2 Hwy, access, W/D in
unit, rm-walk-in, close
to 1st flr. 2bd, 1ba, S.F.
transp. \$1245

**3BD/2A Penthouse
\$250 near Piedmont &
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view, new, quiet
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Piedmont & parking**
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Frpcl., pvt, deck, gar.,
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trans. 925-518-7676**

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\$250 near Piedmont &
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**3 BEDROOMS/2 BATHS,
Custom wood paneled
Dbl. doors, Corner of
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water/drain, pvt. patio,
gas range, w/d, transp.**
\$1075. 510-339-3783

GLENVIEW sunrm, 3 unit
victorian lg. 1bd/ba,
kit, use of hot tub,
pvt. deck, water/gar.
off st. prkg. \$1100.
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**LAKE VIEW 1bdm \$1095
Bright Studio w/lrg. kit.
\$750. Move In Bonus
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**LARGE 2BD/2A, 2bd, 1ba
Complex, 2bd, balcony,
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\$61 Oakland Ave.
EEN PM. 510-420-0945**

**LARGE Studio behind
Dumbarton, corner of
Montclair Village,
water/drain, pvt. patio,
gas range, w/d, transp.**
\$1175. 510-652-7061

**MONTCLAIR 1bdm, 750 sf
hdwd. flrs, firest. nbhd:
\$1100. 510-339-3783**

**MONTCLAIR Snake Rd,
W/D, 2bd, 1ba, quiet, a/c,
pvt. deck, water/gar.
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**PANORAMIC Bay Area
views, lg. 1BD/1BA, Vew
of bay, 2bd, 1ba, S.F.
transp. \$1245**

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Sunny, spad, hdwd. flr.,
firest. Fitness center.**
One month free rent!
1bd/1ba \$175. 750. Free
prih. & 1 mo. free
rent. 510-482-8195.

**BROADWAY & 30th
Lower Piedmont, Fan-
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2 story lft. Formal en-
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kit, use of hot tub,
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off st. prkg. \$1100.
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**LAKEVIEW 1bdm \$1095
Bright Studio w/lrg. kit.
\$750. Move In Bonus
\$100. 510-339-3783**

**LARGE 2BD/2A, 2bd, 1ba
Complex, 2bd, balcony,
Security Garage Pkg.
\$61 Oakland Ave.
EEN PM. 510-420-0945**

**LARGE Studio behind
Dumbarton, corner of
Montclair Village,
water/drain, pvt. patio,
gas range, w/d, transp.**
\$1175. 510-652-7061

**MONTCLAIR Snake Rd,
W/D, 2bd, 1ba, quiet, a/c,
pvt. deck, water/gar.
\$1175. 510-339-3783**

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views, lg. 1BD/1BA, Vew
of bay, 2bd, 1ba, S.F.
transp. \$1245**

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Sunny, spad, hdwd. flr.,
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One month free rent!
1bd/1ba \$175. 750. Free
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**UPPER Glenview Dist.,
nr Park Blvd & 57th.
Transit line, 2bd/1ba,
living room, kitchen, all
small outside balcony,
new laundry facility,
pvt. deck, water/gar.
\$1200. 510-530-2962**

Orinda Apartments

**1.5 MILES to Bart. Living
rm area w/frc/pk, vault,
ceil. 9'0", 1bd/1ba, 900sf.
Floor plans, \$950/mo. +
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**\$1250. Upper Piedmont.
Large home shared w/
roommate, 2bd, 1ba, 900sf.
Floor plans, \$950/mo. +
utls. Call 925-254-6825**

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Alameda

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3 SEASIDE DR.
SAT 9-2
Dresser, desks, toys,
girls clothes.

2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE
Sat. 8/28, 7AM-NOON:
104 Nottingham Dr.
(Harbor Bay Dr.,
Airheart Elem. Sch.)
Items: child & misc.

3000 FT. EAST BAY
GREENBRIER AND
FRANCISCAN WAY
OF THE EAST BAY
SAT 9-3
Many assorted items

Alameda High School
Tennis Fundraiser

Alameda High School
2201 Encinal
Oak St. Parking Lot
Sat. 8-9am
Great Sale! Furniture,
clothing, toys, hshd
goods, more!

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3200 BLOCK OF
CENTRAL**
BTWN HIGH FENSIDE
SAT 8-9AM
LOTS OF GOOD STUFF

BIG MOVING SALE
Sat. 8/28, 8-9AM
Saturday Only! 9-4pm
Hshd, items, clothing,
electronics, books, kitchenware, etc.

BLOCK SALE SAT 9-3000
2845-54 BROWN ST.
Off Marcus St. HBL
Art, collectibles, software,
furniture, lamps, plants,
live & silk, clothing,
Sports Books, golf, scuba
gear, much more! Cash!

COMMUNITY YD. SALE
Wide variety of grt-stu
Housewares, Tools,
SCHOOL FUND RAISER
3112 Van Buren
Corona Del Mar St. &
Van Buren

**FESTIVAL OF
RUMMAGE**
FRI & SAT 9 to 5
Christ Episcopal
Church

1700 SANTA CLARA
THOUSANDS OF ITEMS

Furniture, Clothing, Jew
ery, Antiques, Toys,
Books, Bicycles, House
hold items, misc. & a MERCEDES BENZ.

GARAGE/ MOVING SALE
Sat. Aug. 28th, 8-1PM

2160 Alameda Ave.
(Corner of Walnut &
Alameda Ave. Across
from Walgreen's.)
Books, TV, media,
clothes, elec., crafts,
miscellaneous, knacks,

House Block Sat. 8/28
8-9am Sun. Justin Circle
Harbor Bay Dr.
Antiques, Tools & Lots
of misc. No Early Birds
seaviews.

**MEGA NEIGHBORHOOD
BLOCK SALE**
SAT 8-9AM
1300 EAGLE ST. @
ENCINAL
Books, furniture, toys,
household items, Just
about everything

MOVING SALE
578 KAT ST.
Furniture, pasta maker

MOVING SALE SAT 8-2

2139 ALAMEDA AVE.
Brown Walnut & Willow
For all your moving needs
metal desk and dinner
bench, fabric, kitchen
stuff and much more.

MOVING SALE
Sun. 8am-8pm
Antique furniture,
tools, misc. & more!
303 Channing
Way off Robert Davey

MULTI FAMILY SALE
Sat. 8/28, 8-1PM

craftsmen, art arm
saw, excel cond
cris/mattresses,
nordic, 100% down/
car seat, clothing, gar
den furn, books, misc.

**SUMMERSALE
BASKETBALL LEAGUE**

2311 BUENA VISTA
SAT 8-9AM
BUENA VISTA UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
Lots of hshd items

YARD SALE
2033 SANTA MONICA
AVE.
SAT 8-9AM
Sports & fitness equip,
antique dining table, furni
ture, tools, books, lots of misc.

Alamo

**ALAMO Redecorating
Sale:** 3 Piece Wall Unit
Accessories, etc.

Sun. only, 11:00-3:00
Noon, 8am-4pm
1469 Casa Vallecita
Off Danville Blvd.

BIG ALAMO SALE
SAT 8-8A-4 PM
Tools, antiques, pasta
machines, antiques,
collectible, misc.
158 Castle Crest Rd.

HUGE GARAGE SALE!
Sat. 8/28- Sun. 8/29, 8-3

1495 Paseo Avn
(between 1st & Ordway)
1 block North of
Gilman, 2 blocks
South of Marin.

Albany

BARGAINS GALORE!
Neighbors, 100's of Sale
Sat. 8/28 - 9/1
1495 Paseo Avn
(between 1st &
Ordway) 1 block North
of Gilman, 2 blocks
South of Marin.

Antioch

5044 Mesa Ridge Drive
Sat. Aug. 28 8-2pm
twins beds, little toys,
toys, home decor,

ESTATE SALE
SAT 8/28 8AM-4PM
133 PLEASANT VALLEY
Beds, books, houses
clothing, too much to
list!

EVERYTHING MUST GO!

120 Brookside Dr.
Sat. 8/28, 8-4 PM
Twin & Queen bed
rooms, misc. &
more

GARAGE SALE!
#141 Amargosa Dr.
Off Hillcrest &
W. 10th Street
Saturday 8AM-12PM
Furn, w/d/Maytag, &
Dishes, clothes, more!

Saturday 8AM-12PM
Furn, w/d/Maytag, &
Dishes, clothes, more!

GARAGE SALE!
1411 Amargosa Dr.
Off Hillcrest &
W. 10th Street
Saturday 8AM-12PM
Furn, w/d/Maytag, &
Dishes, clothes, more!

MULTI FAMILY SALE!
#199 Menlo Place
Off Thousand Oaks In
N. Berkeley 8-28
9-2pm

GARAGE SALE!
#141 Amargosa Dr.
(Off Hillcrest &
W. 10th Street)

Saturday 8AM-12PM
Furn, w/d/Maytag, &
Dishes, clothes, more!

GARAGE SALE!
120 Brookside Dr.
Sat. 8/28, 8-4 PM
Twin & Queen bed
rooms, misc. &
more

DON'T MISS THIS!

HUGE GARAGE SALE
Sat. Aug. 28, 8:30-10
1281 Monterey Ave.
Highland Park
Appliances, furniture,
kitchenware, tools,
linens & towels, books,
camping gear & more!

MOVING OUT OF STATE
524 WOODMONT AVE.
Nr Spruce/Grizly
Antiques, vintage art,
unique & practical
items. Cash only.

GARAGE SALE!
#199 Menlo Place
Off Thousand Oaks In
N. Berkeley 8-28
9-2pm

MULTI FAMILY SALE!
#199 Menlo Place
Off Thousand Oaks In
N. Berkeley 8-28
9-2pm

MULTI FAMILY SALE!
#199 Menlo Place
Off Thousand Oaks In
N. Berkeley 8-28
9-2pm

Antioch

GARAGE SALE
Sat. 8/28, 8AM-2PM
16 Elkhorn Dr.
Clothing, misc.,
household items.

GARAGE SALE

Saturday 8:30-1:00pm

205 Reseda Way

Appliances Bookcase

Furn. Glassware Kitchen
ware Lamps Lvv. rm.
Tur. & more

No Early Birds

Brentwood

BIG MOVING SALE

Everything goes

10% off

100 COLLECTIVE COURT

SAT 8/28, 9AM-10PM

1413 JADE CT

Fri. Sat. 9-3pm

Lovely items, re
cliners, trundle bed
bakers' rack, clothing

10% off

100 COLLECTIVE COURT

SAT 8/28, 9AM-10PM

1413 JADE CT

Fri. Sat. 9-3pm

100 COLLECTIVE COURT

SAT 8/28, 9AM-10PM

1413 JADE CT

Fri. Sat. 9-3pm

100 COLLECTIVE COURT

SAT 8/28, 9AM-10PM

1413 JADE CT

Fri. Sat. 9-3pm

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SAT 8/28, 9AM-10PM

1413 JADE CT

Fri. Sat. 9-3pm

100 COLLECTIVE COURT

SAT 8/28, 9AM-10PM

1413 JADE CT

F

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1 CAN I CAN ages 1-

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pared entirely to the

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073403183 510.215.0688

Pets

Bengal kitten, male,

very wild looking,

200-280

BERNESE Mt. Dog Mix-

neat, male, 5 yrs, old,

watchdog, loves all

kids, Needs lov-

ing home, sold

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male, 3 yrs, adora-

ble, to living homes,

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20 Yrs Exp. All ages

sun, transp, att. of a pvt. hm-

combined w/ a compre-

hensive exp., lic.

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Open, 7 days a week,

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Accounting

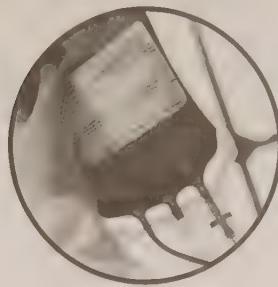
CASHIER CLERK
The Contra Costa Times has an excellent opportunity for a part-time Cashier Clerk. Work 8:30am-5pm. Duties include opening and sorting customer OPEX mail sorting payments on remittance processing equipment, code and endorse checks and update customer accounts. Additional duties include balancing bank deposit preparation. Requirements include touch, banking or proof/encoding experience, some computer knowledge helpful.

Contra Costa Newspapers is an equal opportunity employer, offering a comprehensive benefits package including pension plan, stock purchase plan, credit union, and discounts.

Employment

ACCOUNTING
CCN CONTRA COSTA NEWSPAPERS

Employment



CHIRON

Our discoveries lead to more opportunities.

No biotech company has had a greater impact on human health worldwide than us! Headquartered in Emeryville, Chiron is a multi-dimensional company with businesses in biopharmaceuticals, vaccines and blood testing. With more than 5500 employees worldwide, Chiron has been at the forefront of improving lives around the globe.

**We believe in hiring excellent people,
and as we continue to grow, we're looking for talented, dynamic individuals for the following:**

DIRECTOR, CLINICAL (MD)

Manage the development and medical monitoring of clinical trials. Design, prepare and initiate study protocols and other required documentation in compliance with project plans, federal regulations, GCP, and good medical practice. Research and select Investigators. Analyze and interpret study data and prepare reports for submission and publication. Requires MD with strong background in infectious diseases/pediatrics/preventive medicine and familiarity with clinical trials. Vaccines trial experience highly desired. Additional experience in clinical medicine, pharmaceutical medicine and/or regulatory affairs supported by publications preferred. Please apply at jobs.chiron.com, referencing job 44001905-KO.

PRINCIPAL SCIENTIST, RESEARCH

Experienced scientist skilled in both protein chemistry and mass spec. Will purify proteins and carry out detailed characterization of them for small molecule and therapeutic protein drug development. Working on multiple projects simultaneously, the candidate will be a member of project teams, planning strategy, and serving as the team expert. Requires PhD in Biochemistry or related area plus minimum of 4 years of postdoctoral experience in a biotech or pharmaceutical setting. Experience managing direct reports a plus. Must be expert at protein purification and mass spectrometry. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44001926-RK.

PRINCIPAL SCIENTIST, DEVELOPMENT

In this challenging position, you'll participate in the development, assay validation, and assay transfer with Analytical Development, Analytical Operational, and other Chiron Divisions. You'll also be responsible for assay development for QC Operations and QC Raw Materials, the scientific review of the stability program of commercial products, participation in the characterization of degradation products with the above mentioned divisions. Involvement in Chiron manufacturing activities through equipment cleaning validation and certificate analysis. Generating reports for in-house and external submissions to regulatory agencies as well as participation in multidisciplinary product development teams are also functions of this position. Position requires PhD in Chemistry, Biochemistry, or related discipline with emphasis in Analytical Chemistry, including 5+ years of peer-reviewed technical and supervisory experience. The ideal candidate must have strong technical proficiency with HPLC method development. Additional familiarity with a wide range of protein analytical techniques including gel electrophoresis, mass spectrometry, and mass spectrometry is essential. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44001784-JS.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT

Lead a group of 10-15 Scientists and Associates to develop and manufacture small molecule oral formulations to support clinical development and commercialization. Provide technical leadership and project management strategy for small molecule drug product development and interface with cross-functional groups drawn from Research, Development, Operations and Marketing. Requires PhD in the Pharmaceutical Sciences or related discipline with 10+ years of experience in a pharmaceutical R&D environment. A solid understanding of physical chemistry, formulation and process development of oral solid dosage forms, biopharmaceutics and technology transfer is desired. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002306-JS.

RESEARCH SCIENTIST

We seek a highly motivated, organized and detail-oriented scientist for a position in our Translational Medicine group. This individual would be involved in variety of efforts supportive of our goal to discover biomarkers and molecular signatures predictive of patient response to therapy. This person will manage a large Tissue Bank, help to develop a database to support the Tissue Bank, and assist in micro array, genotyping and proteomic-based efforts to identify biomarkers. The successful candidate will enjoy working with others, be forward-thinking and respond well to aggressive deadlines. Experience in cell culture, RNA/DNA/protein preparation, RT-PCR, DNA sequencing, ELISA, western blots, gel-shift assays and analysis of Affymetrix micro array-based mRNA expression analysis is required. Advanced skills in Microsoft Excel are required and experience with Microsoft Access and database design is a plus. A PhD and at least 2 years post doctoral experience required. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002477-RK.

SPECIALIST II, RESEARCH

Position I or II, commensurate with experience. Participate in and perform the design, development, execution and implementation of research projects pertaining to the bioassays department. Experience with enzyme activity development (esp. kinases), enzymology, and high-throughput screening formats is required. Requires PhD in a relevant scientific discipline or equivalent. Postdoctoral work and 1-5 years of related experience is desirable, along with experience with laboratory automation, data management, and a sound knowledge of the drug discovery process. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002451-RK.

SPECIALIST II, QA/QC

Coordinate activities associated with DR resolution; track status of outstanding DRs; distribute routine status reports to management; organize cross-functional meetings to facilitate investigations; publish notes and action items from meetings; and provide support to the investigation process and follow-up to assure timely DR closure. Provide support to other QA functions as needed. Requires BA/BS in the Biological Sciences. At least 4 years related technical experience with significant QA experience. Proven ability to maturely express views and opinions, listen well and accept conflicting points of view. Proven ability as a team player and team leader. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002141-JS.

MANAGER, QUALITY ASSURANCE

Manage the person-in-the-plant function to provide QA oversight to BioPharma manufacturing operations at Chiron, evaluating manufacturing operations and practices to ensure cGMP compliance. Responsibilities include on-site review of batch record documentation to ensure accurate and timely completion of these documents and providing input to discrepancy investigations to ensure that the investigations are adequate, complete, and properly documented. Requires BA/BS in the Biological Sciences and 5-8 years of relevant experience in biologics manufacturing quality assurance. Knowledge of quality systems which ensure control of raw and biologics manufacturing facilities and processes in accordance with cGMP. Knowledge of biologics and drug manufacturing processes. Thorough knowledge of cGMP for drugs and biologics manufacturing. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44000281-JS.

ANALYST II, LIMS

Maintain the Laboratory Information Management System for Environmental Monitoring and Microbiology in a GMP, Part 11 compliant environment. Construct and perform routine maintenance on LIMS applications using LIMS Basic, maintain change control records on all modifications to templates. Assist in resolution of LIMS questions and/or problems reported by end users. Work with Quality Assurance to ensure that all changes and validation activities are done accurately per established regulations and procedures. Requires PhD in a scientific discipline with 3 years work experience with LIMS and a firm understanding of a programming language. General knowledge of data trending, cGMP, software validation and laboratory experience in a QA/QC environment preferred. Experience in qualification and validation testing in a GMP or cGMP environment. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002139-JS.

We also seek professionals in the following areas:

PROCESS DEVELOPMENT • CLINICAL RESEARCH • MANUFACTURING MANAGEMENT • MASTER MECHANIC

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY • RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT • PATENT/LICENSING ASSOCIATES • QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL

For application information, and complete job descriptions, please visit:

www.chiron.com

Chiron is proud to be an equal opportunity employer, and we welcome candidates from diverse backgrounds.

Sutter Delta Medical Center

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Community Based, Not For Profit

Dedication. Commitment. Compassion.

Sutter Delta Medical Center (SDMC) - where the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers converge to create the world-famous Delta of the San Francisco Bay - serves the many varied communities of eastern Contra Costa County. As the region's premier not-for-profit hospital, SDMC provides a full range of services for the cities of Antioch, Bay Point, Pittsburg, Oakley, Brentwood, Bethel Island, Knightsen and Discovery Bay. We are seeking exceptional candidates for the following:

DIRECTOR, EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

With over 50,000 patient visits per year, the Director, Emergency Services has 24-hour operational responsibility to assure the delivery of appropriate and quality emergency services to our valued patients. You'll lead and provide positive direction to the department's supervision team to ensure efficient operation. Position requires BSN or Bachelor's in Health Care Administration along with current RN licensure/ACLS certification. The ideal candidate should possess 3-5 years previous acute care management experience. Experience with Fastrack and REMS strongly preferred. We offer an excellent executive compensation/benefits package.

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGIST

We are seeking exceptional candidates to utilize radiopharmaceuticals in order to perform diagnostic procedures. The NMT performs and documents quality control tests to ensure the quality of radiopharmaceuticals and the operation of all instrumentation. Position requires graduation from an accredited School of Nuclear Medicine Technology and Current Nuclear Medicine License as well as complete understanding of Nuclear Medicine methodology, equipment, radiopharmaceuticals, basic radiation physics/biology, computer skills, human anatomy and physiology. Prior/current experience in a hospital environment is also required.

LABORATORY MANAGER

In this challenging position, you'll have operational responsibility to assure the processing of appropriate and quality patient diagnostics, tests and reporting of results for Laboratory Services. In addition, the Laboratory Manager ensures compliance with hospital standards of care through effective staffing, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation of policies, procedures and objectives. The ideal candidate is also a proactive leader who coaches, counsels, disciplines and recognizes/rewards team performance. Position requires Bachelor's Degree in Laboratory Science, Business or Health Care Administration with current Clinical Lab Scientist licensure. A Master's Degree in related Business or Health Care Administration field is highly desirable. Previous supervisory experience highly desired.

RADIOLOGY MANAGER

Here's your chance to join Sutter Delta's dynamic management team while shaping the direction of Sutter Delta's Radiology Department. In this position, you'll have operational responsibility to assure the processing of appropriate and quality patient diagnostics, tests and reporting of results for the Medical Imaging Services. The manager is accountable to meet established hospital standards of care through effective staffing, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation of policies, procedures and objectives. As a department leader, you'll also coach, counsel, discipline and recognize/reward excellent staff performance, conduct staff hiring, orientation, and staff development/education. Position requires a Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience in Radiology, Business or Health Care Administration and a current Radiologic Technologist License. A Master's degree in related Radiology, Business or Health Care Administration as well as prior/current supervisory experience highly desired.

PHARMACIST

As a member of the Pharmacy Team at Sutter Delta, you'll ensure the timely and accurate preparation and distribution of Pharmaceutical products within the facility. This position assures that the medication orders are consistent with current medical practice, F.D.A. and drug manufacturer recommendations, current literature and/or other information sources. The Pharmacist resolves variations from the above standards with members of the Medical Staff in accordance with established policies and procedures. In addition, you'll also provide information and guidance in the proper administration of medications as necessary for health care providers and patients. Position requires Current CA Pharmacist License with BS or Pharmacy Degree preferred. Completion of a Pharmacy Residency program is highly desired.

FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Here's your chance to demonstrate your superior fundraising skills. Reporting to the CEO, the Executive Director of the Delta Memorial Hospital Foundation will provide leadership and expertise to the Foundation Board of Directors and Hospital Administration in order to provide maximum community benefit and philanthropic support. The Executive Director identifies and implements fund raising opportunities for the purpose of attracting both major gift support as well as smaller, broad based gifts and also manages the assets of the Foundation. Other responsibilities include establishing, maintaining, and fine-tuning an endowment designed to grow over time, developing, directing, and monitoring the Foundation operating and capital budgets, managing and coordinating outside consultant/contracts, and assuring short and long term financial goals are met by planning and developing budgets for all areas of responsibility. Position requires a Bachelor's Degree in Communications, Public Relations, or related field plus active membership in a professional fundraising organization. Experience in a leadership role in a fundraising field, preferably in a health-oriented arena, and continuing education in fund development is required.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST

Reporting to the Rehabilitation Manager, the Physical Therapist provides professional rehabilitation services to patients including evaluations, planning individual patient care programs and treatments. You'll also provide functional work direction and rehabilitation assignments to the Physical Therapy Aide, and perform other related duties as required. Position requires graduation from an APTA accredited school of Physical Therapy. Candidate must be licensed and registered to practice in the State of California and should possess BLS/CPR certification from the American Heart Association. Prior acute care/outpatient experience is preferred, although new graduates will be considered.

REHABILITATION MANAGER

Reporting to the Assistant Administrator of Ancillary Services, the Rehabilitation Services Manager provides professional physical therapy and occupational therapy services to patients including evaluations, planning individual patient care programs and treatments, and performs other related duties as required. The ideal candidate must be a graduate of an accredited school of Physical or Occupational Therapy and must be licensed and registered to practice in the State of California. Three to five years prior acute care and outpatient experience is required. Candidate should also possess excellent interpersonal, customer service and communication skills as well as BLS/CPR certification by the American Heart Association.

As a result of our exciting growth, we are seeking talented licensed nursing candidates for the following:

MED/SURG • EMERGENCY FAMILY BIRTH • CRITICAL CARE TELEMETRY • OR

We offer hiring bonuses to new employees joining the Sutter System for Full time, Part time and Per-Diem positions.

You may apply directly online at:

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or contact Julie Moura, HR Recruiter, at: (925) 779-3067. EOE

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Int'l Cos. seeks Pt. ass't. EXCEL proficiency a must - accounting & A/C skills req'd. Commensurate w/ exp. & education. Send resume & salary history (req'd) to: \$10,222.9676

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GENERAL LABOR earn up to \$1200/wk. Must be drug free/Certified Safety 707-448-1460 Web ID: CC0017941775

GENERAL LABOR Yard Work, Landscaping, Full Bnts. Apply Mon. - Fri. 8AM-4PM @ 2368 Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 Web ID: CC0013924753

GENERAL f/c PT exp w/ QuickBooks,Word/Perf ect, Excel 95-2000/2002 Web ID: CC0026942318

GLAZIER Journeyman Glazier. Bring tools. Top Pay. 925-820-1748 Web ID: CC0019132462

GLAZIER, P/T, screens too, Non Union Fax req. w/ tools. Bring tools. Web ID: CC0020945603

GLAZIER Stylist for busy San Ramon salon co-operative. Please call 925-295-0605 Web ID: CC0021950605

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HOTEL Wyndham

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details. Fax: 925-363-5323 Web ID: CC0020947233

HAIRSTYLISTS Under 1000 sq ft. Pink & Co. salon, \$750 rent. Financial oppy. 925-930-6216. Web ID: CC0025954509

HEALTHCARE 35+ yrs. Exp. in Assisted Care Now. Under new management offering Exc. Opportunities for Employees. Positions: P.T., Aide, Living Dir., Activities Director, P.T. Recruiters. Exp. preferred, with Dementia desirably. Bilingual. 10 hrs./wk. 540 Patterson Blvd. Pleasant Hill, 94523 or fax to 925/287-0984

HEALTHCARE PT Detox Specialist. Full time certif. Fed. Presid. Fax Res. 925 676 3275 Attn: Sue Web ID: CC0025954509

HEALTHCARE 35+ yrs. Exp. in Assisted Care Now. Under new management offering Exc. Opportunities for Employees. Positions: P.T., Aide, Living Dir., Activities Director, P.T. Recruiters. Exp. preferred, with Dementia desirably. Bilingual. 10 hrs./wk. 540 Patterson Blvd. Pleasant Hill, 94523 or fax to 925/287-0984

HAIR STYLIST Positions available at beautiful new upscale salon. All experience levels. Please call Lisa Marie at 925-295-0605 Web ID: CC002695053

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HAIRSTYLISTS, Station & Shop. 1000 sq ft. Free. Stanley: 925-827-1168 or 510-390-6638 Web ID: CC00269547318

HAIR STYLISTS Wanted. Own your own business. Rent avail. 925-363-5432 Web ID: CC0020947233

HAIRSTYLIST Under 1000 sq ft. Pink & Co. salon, \$750 rent. Financial oppy. 925-930-6216. Web ID: CC0025954509

HEALTHCARE 35+ yrs. Exp. in Assisted Care Now. Under new management offering Exc. Opportunities for Employees. Positions: P.T., Aide, Living Dir., Activities Director, P.T. Recruiters. Exp. preferred, with Dementia desirably. Bilingual. 10 hrs./wk. 540 Patterson Blvd. Pleasant Hill, 94523 or fax to 925/287-0984

HVAC-Service Specialist

If you are looking for a career not a job in the HVAC field, then look no further. We offer the highest pay & benefits in the industry.

Industry: HVAC

Experience: 5 yrs. min.

Education: High School

Skills: Basic HVAC

Other: Must be able to work

independently & as part of a team.

Location: Northern California

Compensation: Competitive

Benefits: Excellent

Opportunities: Many

Training: On-the-job

Equipment: State-of-the-art

Tools: Complete

Software: Computer

Other: Excellent

Environment: Clean, safe

Work Hours: Flexible

Shifts: Day, night, weekend

Travel: Minimal

Other: Excellent

Opportunities: Many

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Equipment: State-of-the-art

Tools: Complete

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Employment	
LEGAL SECRETARY : Busy law atty. In sm. W.O. ofc. F/T. Exp'd. w/ Writ. & Admin. Duties. A+. Fax res. sume 925-947-1464. Web ID: C00826995698	
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Pension 3% @ 55, portion paid by City; CalPERS medical, short and long-term disability and life insurance plans made by cafeteria plan via fixed City-paid benefit; annual leave allowance; education incentive paid holidays; 2 personal leave days; deferred compensation plan; shift differential pay is a residential community 35 miles east of San Francisco. Police Department consists of 11 and 4 civilian staff. Clayton is an equal opportunity employer with one of the best rates in the state. An application and full job description may be obtained by calling the City of Clayton Police Department, 6000 College Trail, Clayton, CA 94517, 925-7350.	
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Careers in Pittsburg, CA

Process Technician, M&E - #0400133

Monitors temperature, pressure, and rates of flow throughout the chemical process and takes the appropriate action to keep the process operating within the specified parameters. Must be able to operate hand tools, lift a minimum of 50 pounds, kneel, bend, crawl and crouch frequently, climb stairs and ladders, and work at elevated heights and in confined spaces. A high school diploma or GED is required. Knowledge of Word, Excel, and Outlook with an understanding of Access is also required. Chemical or petroleum plant knowledge and experience as well as an Associate's Degree in Process Technology or equivalent degree/certificate are preferred. Must be able to accept call-outs and overtime, based on plant needs.

SR. EH&S Delivery Technologist- #0400242

Implements detailed, day-to-day EH&S (Environmental, Industrial Hygiene, Safety & Reactive Chemicals, Health Services) programs. Ensures that the EH&S and chemical aspects of Operating Discipline are adequate and applied to achieve environmental performance goals. Acts as the Plant resource for related EH&S information on procedures, guidelines and standards. Performs/coordinates EH&S chemical monitoring, data collection, analyzing and reporting for the Plant. Associate's Degree in safety, environmental sciences or engineering technology is required. Experience in a manufacturing environment and knowledge of EH&S requirements are desirable. Must be able to handle a variety of tasks simultaneously and be able to prioritize work to meet deadlines. Attention to detail, accurate documentation, strong written & oral communication skills are necessary.

Training Coordinator- #0400235

Develops, implements, coordinates, and maintains the department training program to ensure compliance is achieved for all training policies and requirements. Works with employees to develop and maintain employee-specific training schedules/plans. High school diploma or equivalent plus college level courses or equivalent experience in teaching or organizational training is required. An Associate's Degree or Certificate in Training and Performance Improvement or related field is highly desirable. Must have experience in classroom delivery, enhancing training materials or previous experience in Training Coordinator position; leadership abilities and team orientation; excellent written, verbal and presentation skills, and the ability to use Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint at an intermediate to advanced level.

Instrument Technologist- #0400031

Set up, calibrate, test, measure and repair all types of controls and instruments with pneumatic, electrical and electronic variables. Repair, maintain and install electrical, pneumatic and/or electronic equipment and machinery. Troubleshoot and repair malfunctions and document failure analysis. Consult with engineers and operators on reliability and improvement issues. A H.S Diploma or GED along with a certificate or a 2 year instrumentation degree and 5+ years related work required. Must have good written, communication, interpersonal and strong process skills. Must have willingness to accept overtime, and be able to lift 40 lbs., climb ladders & stairs, and work in confined areas. Field experience in I&E is preferred.

Your hard work and contribution to the team will be rewarded with a competitive salary and excellent benefits, including:

- Medical, Dental, and Life Insurance
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To learn more about these opportunities and to be considered for a position, visit us online. (Limited testing seats will be available.) <http://www.careersatdow.com>. Click on Jobs@Dow, then under Administrative Support and Technician Opportunities, click United States, then search for the job number.

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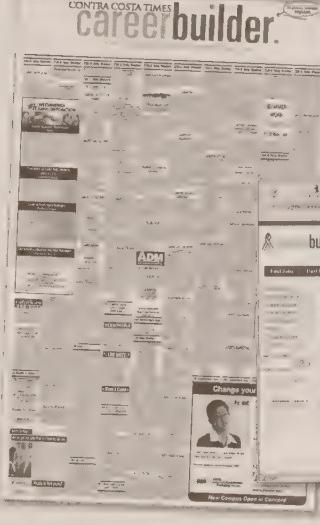
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MAINTENANCE/CUSTOMER SERVICE Maintains cafeteria, breakroom, bathrooms, laundry room, lobby & offices; empties trash; minor cleaning; delivery of logistics services and supply chain management for Penske Truck Leasing; approx. monthly us \$3.4 billion.

Employment**MECHANICAL**

Penske Truck Leasing, headquartered in Reading, PA, is a joint venture of Penske Corporation and GE Equipment Management. A global transportation corporation, it provides the company operates more than 100,000 medium-, and light-duty trucks and serves more than 700 locations in the United States, Canada and Europe. Product lines include full-truck maintenance, commercial and consumer service and logistics services and supply chain management for Penske Truck Leasing; approx. monthly us \$3.4 billion.

JOURNEYMAN DIESEL MECHANIC (Oakland, CA)

Penske Truck Leasing is seeking two (2) qualified individuals for our headquarter's. Your responsibilities will include the maintenance of all types of vehicles. Pre-emptive maintenance, repair, components, or the replacement of major components, or the repair of heavy-duty truck and trailer components. In all series of heavy-duty truck and trailer components. Job code MA/Spine.

MEDICAL Ass't. In busy ENT practice in Pinole, CA. PT, fax 510-724-5451.

MEDICAL ASST. Orlando, FL. Exp. in medical office. Apply to www.careerpath.com. Web ID C00818943353

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MEDICAL BILLER T/F temp, pos. Exp. Medical Billing, 2 yrs. exp. Strong, comm. skills. Must be bilingual. Job code: HR. 1200-2155-2115. Fax 925-834-6542

MEDICAL BILLING Exp. req'd. F/T, brnts. San Ramon, CA 94583. Fax 925-834-0000

MEDICAL BILLING Specialist. Min. Sys exp. Billing, coding, remittance, payment review. Tr-Vill Hospital, 977-0000, 1000, fax 925-254-3100. Web ID C00818937449

MEDICAL BILLING T/F, exp. in Chiropractic, English/Spanish preferred. Job code: HR. Solano County.

You must have experience working with patients, professionals and boomlets. Must be knowledgeable in electronics, gas and diesel mechanics, glass A/B interpersonal skills.

HERTZ EQUIPMENT RENTALS Multi-unit operator. Our primary function is to ensure safe and reliable operation of rental equipment by supervising maintenance personnel. Must be able to estimate and have a working knowledge of CMMS system.

The maintenance supervisor is a key component to our success. We offer competitive salaries, with an excellent benefit package that includes dental, dental & dental & dental.

Applicants should send their resumes to: C.H. Cough Co., Inc. Attn: Personnel Dept. 100 Main St., Suite 800, Moraga, CA 94550. Fax: (925) 687-7931. Email: hr@chcough.com. No Walk-ins.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F

MANAGEMENT Supervisor Multi-Easy Body Prod process. Our primary function is to ensure safe and reliable operation of rental equipment by supervising maintenance personnel. Must be able to estimate and have a working knowledge of CMMS system.

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MECHANIC - Immed. opening for Apprentice Mechanic w/Diesel & hydraulic exp. Call 510-412-3070

Employment**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**

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MEDICAL Ass't. In busy ENT practice in Pinole, CA. PT, fax 510-724-5451.

MEDICAL ASST. Orlando, FL. Exp. in medical office. Apply to www.careerpath.com. Web ID C00818943353

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blk, 16K miles, #015200
\$10,000 obo #25-939-7800

MERCEDES 1988 560SEL
blk, show condition,
\$9,100, 925-376-1993

MERCEDES 1982 380SL
blk, 16K miles, #015200
\$65,000 obo #25-938-1642

MERCEDES 1981 380SL
blk, convt, like new
\$12,000 obo #25-938-1455

MERCEDES 1980 Grand
Marquis, 2dr, 16K miles,
blk, 16K miles, #015200
\$7,000 obo #10-925-444-4459

MERCEDES 1993 Grand
Marquis, 2dr, 16K miles,
blk, 16K miles, #015200

MERCEDES 1973 Grand
Marquis 2dr, 42K V8 all
orig \$150, 925-977,5347

MERCURY 2000 Grand
Marquis, 2dr, 16K miles,
blk, 16K miles, #015200

MERCURY 1998 Grand
Marquis 2dr, 16K miles,
blk, 16K miles, #015200

MERCURY 1997 Grand
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MERCURY 1996 Grand
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MERCURY 1995 Grand
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MERCURY 1926 Grand
Marquis 2dr, 16K miles,
blk, 16K miles, #015200

MERCURY 1925 Grand
Marquis 2dr, 16K miles,
blk, 16K miles, #015200

MERCURY 1924 Grand
Marquis

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ays to save money on home projects

MS
not be suitable for your project and how you can save money by investing in 'alternative' products such as urethane millwork, fiber cement siding and acrylic block windows.

"When selecting your contractor, make sure you pick someone who is up-to-speed on building products and who you trust to give you solid advice regarding the investment you're making in your home."

you're making in your home.

As Zerman knows, products chosen for new construction and remodeling projects can end up saving substantial job site time, labor and actual product costs. When looking at large building product expenditures for the home, people often think about roofing, siding and windows. These "big ticket" items can eat up a huge chunk of a budget, so it's important for homeowners to get actively involved in the selection of these items.

"We look at windows as a long-term investment in a home and we encourage homeowners to view them the same way," says Vernon McClure, president of Main Street

McClure, president of Main Street Homes of Richmond, Va. "To us, it makes no sense at all to recommend or install windows that homeowners are going to be unhappy with or need to replace in five years. That's why we take the time to explain energy efficiency benefits to homeowners — including different glass package options — and encourage them to purchase low maintenance vinyl windows. The investment in a top-quality vinyl window means that the homeowner will save on energy, maintenance and re-

stry experts offer these two tips for saving costs when building or remodeling your home: First, research the building products that go into your home. Second, talk to building industry professionals.

placement costs during the lifespan of the home."

McClure, who installs Simon-ton ProFinish windows, takes the time to explain the benefits of fusion-welded corners and seams to his customers.

"Builders and remodelers understand that selecting the least expensive product to put in a home is not the way to build a reputation," says McClure. "We try to share that knowledge with our customers. We've found that by partnering with a quality window manufacturer, we've built up a strong business and a good reputation with our customers."

While windows are definitely a "large ticket item" for homes, many builders and remodelers don't stop there with evaluating products that make good long-term investments for homeowners. Today's building industry professionals are as concerned with the selection of subflooring as they are with the choice of trim products.

"Our company's decision to use urethane millwork ultimately saves the homeowner money," says Jim Benoit, CR of Benoit & Czarniecki Design/Construction, LLC in Newtown Square, Pa. "We used to create built-up interior molding profiles exclusively out of wood. That process was extremely time-consuming, but the results were great. "We've discovered that we can

We've discovered that we can get the same quality look with one-piece urethane moldings from Style Solutions. These larger moldings are lightweight and install easily, so we're also saving our customers on installation time.

"There are still some projects where wood is the preferred application, but when we compare the cost of materials in creating a four- or five-piece wood molding build-up to a one-piece urethane molding product, we find that the urethane product is generally more



METHO CREATIVE SERVICES

es ever a client requests glass block windows from Tyson, his immediate response is to introduce them to acrylic block operable and fixed units.

"We also like the acrylic block products because they're easy to finish the trim around the window inside and out. We firmly believe that

"using Hy-Lite products has helped build our company's quality reputation while giving our customers rooms they can enjoy without worrying about privacy or light issues."

For more information visit www.simonton.com, www.stylesolution.com.

A collage of various products from World Market, including window panels, wine glasses, colored storage baskets, leather furniture, and a rug caravan.

Pans that take the cake

BY DONNA PIERCE
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

We've heard from several readers asking about the best way to prepare cake pans for baking. Their questions include: Does butter work better than vegetable shortening when greasing pans? Is it necessary to dust pans with flour? Should you line the pan with parchment paper?

Although most recipe instructions recommend greasing and flouring baking pans before adding cake batter, a recent test kitchen trial discovered that other methods worked even better.

After baking single layers from identical cake mixes in several different ways, we measured how much each cake rose, then tasted each for flavor differences.

There was no detectable flavor or rise difference between greasing a pan with butter or shortening; in fact, no pan preparation affected flavor.

However, layers achieved the greatest height when the bottom and sides of the pans were greased with shortening or butter and then lined with a wax paper or parchment circle on the bottom. Using wax paper and parchment achieved identical results.

(It's worth noting that many recipes for layer cakes also call for greasing or buttering the parchment or wax paper, because this creates

optimal release of the cakes.)

Greased and floured pans without a parchment or wax paper lining produced the lowest rise.

Q Is there a good way to keep a stalk of celery for a long period of time? — E-mail query

A Store celery up to 10 days wrapped securely in aluminum foil, suggests David Joachim in "Brilliant Food Tips and Cooking Tricks."

Should refrigerated celery go limp, trim the base of the stalk and wrap, refrigerated, in a glass of ice water.

Q How much dried fruit should I send with my husband and son for a one-day backpacking trip? — Peggy Woloszky, Elmhurst, Ill.

A Dried fruit is fresh fruit that has been dehydrated; about 75 to 85 percent of the original water content is removed, and can result in a loss of Vitamins A and C, writes Sharon Tyler Herbst in "Food Lover's Companion," but many vitamins and minerals remain.

Drying intensifies the flavor, and also promotes a long shelf life. Tightly wrapped, dried fruit can be stored at room temperature for up to one year.

Peter Flax, articles editor of Backpacker magazine, said that the amount of dried fruit you pack depends on personal taste plus the

mix of edibles you plan for your hike.

"Backpackers need lots of nutrients and calories," he said.

To balance the nutrition profile for your backpackers, consider including protein-rich nuts with the dried fruit.

And practice makes perfect when you're figuring amounts: "You don't want to lug around excess weight," Flax said, adding that it is still better for beginners to bring a little too much than too little.

Answering your question about quantity is difficult, because many factors come into play: How old is your son? How strenuously will they be hiking, and for how many hours at a time? Are they bringing other foods?

Given that 1 serving of dried fruit is typically $\frac{1}{4}$ cup, and a little of this energy-packed food goes a long way, a safe bet is to pack about 1 pound, even if they don't need that much.

Flax's personal favorite dried fruit mix?

"I like gorp," he said, explaining that the word is an acronym for "good old raisins and peanuts."

Q I am looking for a recipe that I found in the Chicago Tribune years ago: pot roast cut into small pieces and marinated before grilling as shish kebabs. It was one of my favorite recipes. — Diane Stopka via e-mail

A This recipe appeared in the Tribune on July 20, 1978. Kebabs made with beef chuck are a

bit chewier than more tender — and expensive — cuts, but this budget-pleasing recipe offers a great flavor for family dinners.



THESE SHISH KEBABS star marinated pot roast.

20 small white onions, blanched
1 medium green bell pepper, cut
into 1-inch square pieces

Place beef, beef and garlic in a
resealable food storage bag; cover.
Refrigerate at least 12 hours, turning
occasionally. Drain, reserving
1/3 cup of the marinade.

Combine barbecue sauce, re-
served marinade and butter in a
medium saucepan over medium
heat. Heat to a boil, stirring; cook

1 minute. Serve
skewers.

Preparation time:
marinating time:
cooking time:
servings:

Radiant heat and hardwood floors: A dynamic duo

MS

Energy-efficient and comfortable, radiant heat systems and hardwood floors are a natural — and increasingly popular — combination. These helpful tips for selecting floors and systems are courtesy of the American Hardwood Information Center at www.hardwoodinfo.com.

1. What is radiant heat? A series of heating tubes warms the floor in a radiant heat system. The floor then radiates heat to the room. Radiant heat, which is draft-free, can be more comfortable than forced-air heat because it cleanly and silently warms not only the floor but the entire room as well. Radiant heat systems also are typically more energy-efficient than conventional systems, making them more popular than ever.

2. What type of radiant heat system should I install in my home? Ideally, experienced installers of radiant-heat systems and hardwood floors work together to choose the system that best suits your needs. Electric systems use thin electric mats that work much like electric blankets. They often are used to heat small rooms like kitchens, bathrooms and entryways.

Larger rooms often justify the more costly initial expense of installing a hydronic system, which involves heating water that runs through plastic tubes under the floor. Hydronic systems can be powered by gas, oil, electricity or solar energy.

3. Are American hardwood floors compatible with radiant heat systems? Absolutely. Natural hardwoods warm quickly and are cozy for bare feet because

they conduct heat more efficiently than thick, padded carpets. Solid hardwood or engineered wood floors work fine with today's high-tech radiant heat systems — whether on subfloors or concrete slabs. You can add inlays to new or existing wood floors over radiant heat, and you also can paint and stencil the floors.

4. What about tropical woods? The Radiant Panel Association, a trade organization for the radiant heating industry, warns against pioneering the use of a wood with little information on its dimensional stability. If you're importing a tropical or exotic wood, you must pay close attention to the source and age of the wood as well as the method used in dry ing it.

Quick drying creates stresses that can affect the wood later as it expands and contracts.

5. What types of hardwood floors work best with radiant heat? Extensive laboratory testing by Launstein Hardwood Floors in Mason, Mich., found that American hardwoods — including cherry, oak, ash, maple, hickory and walnut — are good choices for radiant-heat flooring.

For best results, use narrow boards, preferably not wider than 3 inches. Narrow boards will better accommodate wood's expansion and contraction across a floor.

Consider using quarter-sawn wood for planks wider than 3 inches, regardless of species, for enhanced dimensional stability.

The Launstein testing found that quarter-sawn planks up to 7 inches across (when properly installed) can work well with radiant

heat systems.

The testing also found that hardwood flooring that is three-eighths of an inch thick conducts heat better than thicker floors and resists gapping.

6. How will moisture affect the installation of a radiant heat system? Wood naturally expands and contracts to reach balance with the relative humidity of its surroundings. That's why it's important to avoid installing wood flooring when moisture levels typically rise sharply, especially during painting or the installation of sheet rock. When radiant heat is installed in concrete, mortar beds or gypsum cement, operate the heating system until these are completely dry before topping with wood floors. This can take several weeks.

Before hardwood floor installation, operate the heating system until the relative humidity in the space stabilizes to the average level expected for seasonal conditions in the area in which the wood floor will be installed. For example, if the space is expected to average 30 percent relative humidity in the winter and 50 percent in the summer, the average would be 40 percent.

In especially dry regions like the American Southwest, a humidifier may be recommended. Likewise, a dehumidifier may be called for in especially humid climates.

Experienced flooring installers will ensure that the wood floor's moisture content is appropriate for your area. A 6 to 8 percent moisture content is average in most parts of the country. For more information about hardwood floors, visit www.hardwoodinfo.com.

7. How warm should a wood floor get? The maximum surface temperature of a wood floor is 85 F. Make sure your installer chooses a control strategy that assures this limit will not be exceeded, and gradually takes the floor through temperature changes.

8. What about the care and maintenance of American hardwood floors over radiant heat systems? Caring for a hardwood floor with radiant heat is no different from caring for any other hardwood floor. Radiant heat systems also typically have no effect on refinishing guidelines. (It is, however, always best to check with the finish manufacturer.)

9. How much do radiant heating systems cost? Prices vary based on the size of the room and type and quality of equipment, ranging from \$3 to \$10 per square foot plus installation. Robert Starr, president of Radiantec, a radiant-heat system manufacturer in Lyndonville, Vermont, estimates a system large enough to heat a 2,500-square-foot home would run about \$5,000, excluding installation costs.

Candles continue reign as essential decorating

NEWSUSA

While home renovation continues to be strong in this stagnant economy, people seem to be spending less on home decorating.

A study conducted for the National Candle Association found that the majority of adult women have spent less than \$500 decorating their homes in the last year.

Though many home decorating budgets are tight, the study found that candles remain a steadfast decorative essential, and 74 percent of women still believe that candles are an important home accessory.

During the past year, four out of five women claim to have purchased at least one type of candle, the most popular being the jar candle. Almost half of the respondents purchased this particular type.

One explanation for the continued growth in the candle market is that many people feel candles can

add a magical touch to a room, yet they are inexpensive.

More and more people are learning that candle lighting is an excellent way to spruce up a room or outdoor space.

Cooper of the National Candle Association says, "Candles are a lasting impression."

Whatever your decorating with candles, the National Candle Association has some tips when candles are within sight:

■ Keep burning candles in the reach of children.

■ Candles should be placed directly on a flat surface.

■ Always keep candles within sight.

■ Keep burning candles away from curtains and other flammable materials.

■ For more information on candle guidelines, log on to [candles.org](http://www.candles.org).



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neegade gardener says landscaping blunders are common in America's yards

CANDACE ENGBRETSON

ST. PAUL RUGER NEWSPAPERS
UTH, Minn. — Too much
bright line of trees. Peren-
ials for the color of their
leaves.

These are common garden
landscaping blunders that
any American homes, says
Engebretson, a Twin Cities
Gardener, professional
writer and garden writer who
lives regularly on HGTV.
She's also co-authored seven
gardening books.

Engebretson, 49, is candid in his
advice and often biting in his
opinions about what homeowners
are doing wrong. At the same time, he
has made all the blun-
ders at least twice — but he's
from them.

Engebretson's list changes with
the seasons and as new blunders
are added to his latest list:

• Design and plant garden
based on flower color com-
binations. "The gardening industry sells
you," Engebretson says. "It's best to look at a really gorgeous
plant and then decide where it
should be placed. The foliage
is there for two reasons: the plants are placed. The foliage is there
for the plant to plant."

• Art and sculpture make the
landscape really special," Enge-
bretson says. "And it doesn't have
to be expensive."

• Place containers on the patio,
along the driveway, on the steps up
to the house and in places in
the yard where plants put into the soil
won't grow.

• We get suckered into taking
the easy way out.

Part of the gardening industry is
convinced that Americans have no
desire or ability to learn to garden
so they dumb it down, Engebret-
son says.

"They're trying to make every-
thing simple, low- or no-maintain-
ance," he says.

Gardening catalogs often don't
use Latin names even though it's
the only way to precisely identify

broad leathery leaves and those
with fine, lacy leaves.

• When you place shrubs, espe-
cially in front of other shrubs, look
at the foliage and try to create
pleasing, sometimes striking, some-
times subtle contrast in the leaves,"
Engebretson advises.

• We don't test, correct and
amend our soil.

If you have trouble getting plants
to grow, the problem is probably
your soil. Have your soil tested.

If plants grow well in your gar-
den, enrich the soil by working in
compost in the fall, Engebretson
says.

• We use too few containers,
structures, art and accessories.

Accessorize your landscape
like you do in your home. Add an
arbor, art, statue, a birdbath, a
garden bench and other outdoor
furniture.

• Art and sculpture make the
landscape really special," Enge-
bretson says. "And it doesn't have
to be expensive."

• Beds around house foundations
aren't wide enough, Engebretson
says, so we have "a tuft of shrubs
that circles the house and looks
ridiculous."

• The landscape should make a
house nestle, rather than look like
a dollhouse on a pool table," he
says. "We need to use small trees
and shrubs that bring the roof of
the house down to ground level
with some kind of scale."

Engebretson's rule of thumb is
that the width of a foundation bed
should be at least one-third the
height of the house. In front of win-
dows, choose shrubs and dwarf
evergreens that at their mature

plants. "Plant-by-number" gardens
that bloom at the same time "look
terrible," he says.

Instead, Engebretson says, plant
what you like every year. Learn
where each plant does best and
looks best.

• Don't take the easy way," he
says. "It makes for really boring
gardens and landscapes."

• We plant the wrong plant in
the wrong place.

Before planting trees and
shrubs, find out how big and how
wide they'll grow. Make sure the
medium plants will have enough
space.

• Pick appropriate sites for plants
by learning plant culture. What are
the plant's requirements for light,
moisture and soil? Does it need full
sun or prefer shade? Does it like
sandy soil with good drainage?

At the nursery, buy a good
plant guide book or search for in-
formation on the Internet.

• We don't use enough
shrub and small trees.

Beds around house foundations
aren't wide enough, Engebretson
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height of the house. In front of win-
dows, choose shrubs and dwarf
evergreens that at their mature

height will not block windows, he
says.

A wider foundation bed that
curves toward the back of the yard
allows for depth in planting. Shrubs
can be planted in front of other
shrubs and perennials in front of
trees. There may even be room for
small trees such as dwarf ever-
greens, skyrocket junipers and Col-
orado blue spruce.

Large trees off the corners of the
house, rising to and surpassing the
rooftop, help create that nested ap-
pearance.

• When you design a landscape,
the goal is to make it look like the
landscape was there before the
house, and you can do that even in
brand-new home construction,"
Engebretson says.

• We devote too much space
to the lawn.

Until the 1950s, only 20 to 30
percent of yards in urban neighbor-
hoods and small towns were de-
voted to grass lawns, according to
Engebretson.

• We had a much higher reliance
on trees and shrubs," he says. "The
lawn area was usually one-half cir-
cle in the front or back. People
would use a push mower, water
with a hose, throw on a little fertil-
izer."

With the 1960s came subur-
banization and yards became mostly
lawn.

Expansive lawns require more
chemicals, more water and more
time to mow than other landscapes.
Incorporate more trees and shrubs,
Engebretson advises.

• Your house will look a lot bet-
ter, the appraisal will come in a lot
higher if you get back to 40 to 50

percent lawn," he says.

• We cut live branches off our
evergreen trees but don't prune
dead branches from our dead-
out trees.

We want grass to grow under a
spruce tree, so we start pruning
from the bottom.

Never cut a healthy branch off
an evergreen, Engebretson says. It
saps vitality from the tree and opens
it up to fungal disease and insects.

"A spruce tree is supposed to
have a broad base that stretches
out and kisses the ground," he
says.

Evergreens will lose branches
naturally. Prune off any dead
branches but also have an arborist
check the tree for diseases.

Hire a professional tree trimmer
to prune deciduous trees and trim
dead branches, Engebretson says.
Do a section of yard each year and
in a few years the whole yard will
be done. You won't have to do it
again for 15 years.

• We're afraid to cut down a
tree or yank out old shrubs.

We've heard about the defor-
estation of the Amazon rain forest
and think it has something to do
with trees in our yards.

"They're not the least bit re-
lated," Engebretson says.

Cut down a tree that's in a bad
spot in your yard. Cut it down if it's
diseased, old, storm-damaged,
looks bad or keeps you from cre-
ating the landscape you want.

• Just give it the ultimate prune."
he says. "Cut it down, get rid of it.
Plant better trees in better spots."

The same holds true for shrubs,
especially those big, old overgrown
shrubs in front of living room win-

dows. You don't have to work with
them, Engebretson says.

"Rip them out and go to the
nursery," he says. "The nursery is
full of extraordinary new shrubs."

A classic example is tall, leggy
lilacs that were planted decades
ago in what was once sun. Now
they're completely shaded and
don't bloom anymore.

"People ask how they can get
lilacs to bloom," he says. "You can't.
Rip them out. Plant something that
will bloom."

• 10. We think too small and too
straight.

We take a divide and conquer
mentality to our landscapes. Instead
of seeing a landscape as a whole,
we see it as little sections. We cut
a circle in the middle of the yard
and plant flowers in it. We plant
perennials by a fence because it's
the only sunny spot in our yard. In
the fall, we get a good deal on trees
so we buy several and plant them
in a straight line along the driveway.

"They're all examples of thinking
too small," Engebretson says.

Start by visualizing an overall
landscape design. Where do you need
trees? Where do you need
tall evergreens to block the wind
or block the sight of the neighbor's
yard?

The landscape, whether simple
or elaborate, should flow from one
corner of the property to another
and from the front to the back.
There are no straight lines in nature,
no perfect circles, no 90-degree
angles.

"These are human inventions,"
Engebretson says. "Make the lines
of your landscape sweep and curl
and bend."

the coolest new ways to keep warm

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places and freestanding stoves give
heat more than am-
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modern, fueled by gas, wood,
pellets, they are standard
in more than half of the
homes built (nearly 1.8 million
in 2004).

According to the Hearth, Patio
and Barbecue Association (HPBA),
home buyers rank a fireplace
as the three features they want
along with outdoor porches
and upgraded kitchens.

hearts of hearth appliances
have grown 500 percent since
gas-fired products
and technological ad-
vances such as direct-vent fresh air
and gas systems can ac-
the whole house.
Three-quarters of all fac-
tories are installed at
new home construction;
make changes is before
it is built. Contractors will

likely choose a very basic, eco-
nomical fireplace, so it's up to you
to make it known from the outset
that the fireplace is important to you
and you want to explore options for
an upgrade. HPBA studies have
found that a fireplace typically adds
\$12,000 in value while also en-
hancing your home.

Where do you begin

There are some 3,200 hearth
specialty retail stores across the U.S.,
many with National Fireplace
Institute (NFI) certified installers on
staff. These retailers are the source for
all the information a homeowner
needs on the types and sizes of
products available as well as on the
all-important local code and regula-
tion data. Unlike many appliances
you purchase, hearth products
don't lend themselves to do-it-your-
self installation, so rely on an HPBA
member retailer.

Consider the options

You need to keep an open mind
about whether a wood burning, elec-
tric or gas fireplace best suits your
lifestyle and needs. Non-wood burn-
ing units add flexibility by allowing
installation and safe use without the
requirement of a chimney. Direct vent

technology enables the expulsion of
gas fireplace emissions out the side of
a house. Electric and vent-free fire-
places need no venting.

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to maintain, more fuel-efficient
and eye-catching. The wide range
of fuel and venting choices as well as
unusual sizes, shapes and designs
enable the hearth appliance to be
customized and readily installed
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family and living rooms — even hallways.
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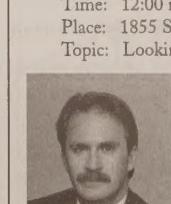
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Dorm living: From drab to stylish

BY KARALEE MILLER
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

The first real test for most college students isn't in the classroom. It's figuring out how to turn those cramped dorm rooms into something they can call home.

Sure, schools throw in a couple of desks and bunk beds, but students are left to their own devices to create a stylish and comfortable haven for sleeping, studying and socializing.

Mona Williams, senior merchandise director for the Container Store, says there are six basic areas to keep in mind when tackling the dorm: bath, desk, closet, laundry, storage, and walls and doors.

"You want things organized but easily accessible," she says. "Items that are multifunctional are key."

When it comes to storage, think vertical.

"You want to maximize your space and build up," says Anne Evans, a spokeswoman for Linens 'n Things. "If you don't have something vertical, you're kind of drowning."

Given all the dual-purpose items to pick from this year, students may find they want to show off their space-savers rather than tuck them away.

"It used to be that storage was meant for hiding and putting away," Evans says. "Now, storage is really out in the open, so it needs to be both stylish and functional."

Collapsible items are high on the list of must-haves, and now it seems most anything can be broken down with ease — tables, hampers and Ottomans, just to name a few.

Adding splashes of color to the room will be no problem, as everything from bath to storage products is beaming in summer's hottest hues, including pink, lime and purple.

"We're seeing more and more color," Williams says. "It allows students to customize their room's look to really suit their personality."

Although it may seem like a lot to study up on, students and parents can rest easy because we've found some great, new items for dorm rooms that will put a whole new spin on the term "tight living quarters."

If you want to be down with the hottest pillow right now, snatch up the silky smooth Moshi pillow. The micro beading inside the stretchable spandex covers makes these squishy headrests as fun to

play with as they are to rest on. Linens 'n Things offers both square and neckroll sizes in fun, vibrant colors like pink, yellow and lime green. \$9.99 and \$14.99.

■ For students looking to add some privacy as well as personal touches, the French memo-board floor screen from Linens 'n Things is perfect. Students can display photos, cards and notes between the satin ribbons and create a cozy nook at the same time. \$29.99.

■ We think whoever came up with the bright idea of turning humongous standard storage bins into splashy, vinyl organizers. Extra kudos for the touch of metal grommets. Linens 'n Things, \$9.99.

■ To find some extra storage space, look no further than under the bed. With the help of bed risers, \$14.99 from Linens 'n Things, you'll get 6 inches of additional room to work with.

■ A paper lantern is a stylish way to add some ambience and try to forget about that unflattering fluorescent lighting in dorm rooms. Linens 'n Things offers two-tone paper lanterns, \$9.99, complete with lighting fixture and opaque cord perfect for hanging.

■ Spruce up your desk with colorful Tiki-style bamboo uplights, \$14.99 from Target. Their hour-glass shape puts the already fun lamp a curve above the rest.

■ As suggested by one of this summer's hottest anthems, you can "lean back" in comfort in a video rocker, \$29.99, from Target. Whether playing a video game, watching TV or just chilling, simply rock away and enjoy.

■ Dorm room carpet is many things — cool and clean usually are not two of them. Try an area rug like in a fun, striped pattern, \$19.99 from Target, to add some color and attitude to the room.

■ Retailers know not to mess with mesh. It's practical, looks cool and — in hot, summer colors, like this orange waste basket, \$4.99 from Target — there's nothing trashy about it.

■ Get a leg up — or down — with folding furniture pieces, like Target's folding tray table (\$12.99) and folding corduroy Ottoman (\$19.99). They're fun and useful when you need them, easy to pack away when you don't.

■ Two of the most dreaded created for a college freshman are "community bathroom." No worries, though. The trek to the loo is made easier with a shower tote,

\$9.99 from Bed, Bath & Beyond. It's got compartments for everything from your soap to razors to dental floss.

■ One of this year's re-emerging patterns is tapestry, \$19.99 from Bed, Bath & Beyond. Hang it on a wall, use it as a couch cover or jazz up a window. However it's used, it's sure to add a groovy vibe to the room.

■ Take a seat or rest your feet. Either way, a storage Ottoman, \$29.99 from Bed, Bath & Beyond, is sure to be a hit. Extra bonus — it's got wheels.

■ Although lap desks may seem old school, they can turn out to be a student's best friend. In hot hues, like pink and denim, they're cooler than ever. \$9.99 at Bed, Bath & Beyond.

■ Sign off in style with acrylic wipe-off boards, \$14.99 and \$19.99 from the Container Store. Write with dry-erase markers, which fit nicely in the curve of the acrylic. Choose from two sizes and four colors.

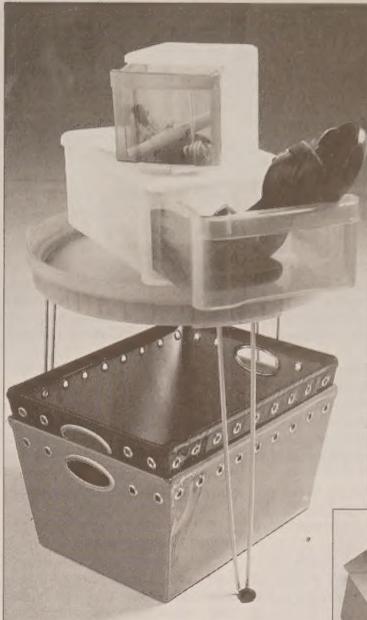
■ Hang on to your CDs by hanging them on the wall. The Container Store offers CD wallpaper, \$7.99, which holds 24 CDs.

■ Storage has never been so stylish. Check out the Container Store's "tint stacking drawers," \$3.99-\$12.99. They're available in four sizes and seven colors, and the mini and extra-small sizes are wall-mountable.

■ There's nothing tacky about mighty magnetic strips, \$12.99 each, from the Container Store. Each strip, available in seven colors, comes with 12 magnets, perfect to post notes and photos.

■ All college students have one thing in common: laundry. The days of lugging hampers and laundry baskets to the basement are gone, thanks to the hamper with wheels, \$19.99, from Linens 'n Things. When you're finished, simply fold it down and stow it away.

■ Keep things cool and organized with "folding mesh cubes," \$3.99 to \$11.99, from The Container Store. Toss clothes, shoes, towels and blankets in these collapsible gems, available in several bold colors and four sizes.



RALPH LAUREN FOR WOOD COLLEGE STUDENT



find, from upper level moving clockwise, units in a wide variety shapes, sizes and colors. Hanging bins are also adding storage space to dorm room. Magnets great for displaying keeping track of other things. Students share a bathroom shower caddy to keep bath products together available.

Online: Linens 'n Things — www.lnt.com; Target — www.target.com; Bed, Bath & Beyond — www.bedbathandbeyond.com and The Container Store — www.containerstore.com.

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Cook crazy: Older students return to brandish whisks and spoons in kitchen classrooms

BY BILL DALEY

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

end of 2005. Rotunno said the demand is fueled by the popularity of television's Food Network, the interest in celebrity chefs and a growing appetite for food.

Numbers are up, too, at the Cooking and Hospitality Institute of Chicago. Between 2001 and 2003, the number of students ages 25 to 50 jumped 74 percent. Nearly 40 percent of students enrolled for the fall 2003 semester at CHIC were age 25 or older, with 63 students ranging in age from 35 to 49. Enrollment in the culinary program at Triton College in River Grove, Ill., is up 9.8 percent to 2004 from 2003, with the median student age hovering at close to 30. And Kendall College has sold its longtime Evanston, Ill., campus to move into the former Sara Lee Corp. research facility on Chicago's Goose Island because of increased enrollment and the need for more program space.

Career-changers "know what they want," said Kevin Appleton, executive chef of the Robert Morris program, himself a man who switched to cooking after a computer career.

"They are already motivated, have a professional demeanor and a good work ethic."

Culinary school officials say that most older students arrive with vi-

sions of owning their own restaurant or catering business. But the reality of long hours, low pay or lack of funding, hot stoves and heavy equipment can take a toll.

If young people find the pace grueling, imagine what it's like to be middle-aged.

"You don't have the physical skills you might have had when younger," admitted John Leonard of Evanston, a 50-year-old student at Kendall College's culinary arts program who previously worked around the world as an advertising executive. But Leonard said that age does have its advantages.

"I found my understanding and my knowledge far outstripped my ability to do it fast," he said. "Compared to the home cook I'm blindingly fast, but I will never be as fast as my young colleagues."

Not everyone's a chef

Reif came to Washburne with hopes of becoming a caterer. When she learned what the job actually entailed, she began retooling her hopes and has decided to become a personal chef. To build a customer base, she's planning on throwing a "tasting party" for her neighbors in a 700-unit apartment complex.

"I want to let people know I'm here," Reif said.

A number of mid-life culinary stu-

dents are attempting to merge old skills and new interests and in so doing are teaching cooking schools a lesson.

"One thing our second-career people do is push us to look at food service from a broader perspective," said Christopher Koetke, associate dean of Kendall's school of culinary arts. "Food service is not limited to restaurants. Food service encompasses consulting, research and development, food manufacturers, personal chefs, catering and on and on it goes."

Showing the way is Denise Norton, a 36-year-old alumna of CHIC. She went from being an unsatisfied certified public accountant to owner of Flavour Cooking School in Forest Park, Ill., in just four years, earning herself a place on the institute's Web page as a success story.

Norton knew from her accounting career that she had the skills to be a good teacher. What she needed was more cooking expertise. She enrolled at the institute.

"I learned the framework, which is an important thing to know when you want to teach other people," she said.

Others looking outside the conventional restaurant scenario include Mark Furlong and Holly Kopek, two Kendall students.

An IBM employee currently on

a leave of absence, the 53-year-old Furlong wants to feed the elderly.

Specifically, he wants to cater to the gourmet tastes of aging Baby Boomers who don't want to give up their high standards even as they move into retirement communities and assisted living complexes.

Kopek, 31, worked eight years for Sprint plugging companies into various types of wireless phones.

The Chicago resident now wants to connect children and families to nutritious meals.

Sacrifices to become a chef

Yet the dream of working in a restaurant remains bright for some.

Formerly a marketing assistant with a bank, Jose Llopiz of Chicago wants to open a Mexican restaurant offering authentic regional cuisine.

Training at Washburne is helping him make the dream a reality, the 36-year-old said, while a part-time job at The Gap helps make ends meet.

But developing a business plan for his restaurant venture, Llopiz knows from his bank experience to look elsewhere for financial help. Financial institutions won't give him a loan, he said, because he hasn't been in the kitchen long enough.

"I'll have to fund it myself," he

said.

For Frankie Brown, the job search was over before it really began.

The Washburne student, who spent 13 years working her way up the fast-food restaurant ladder before burning out, was just hired to be the kitchen manager at a new pub/restaurant in Kissimmee, Fla.

Brown was one of the institute's students assigned to work as kitchen assistants during the National Restaurant Association show held in Chicago in May. Her work over five days was so impressive that on the final day of the show she was offered a job.

The only catch was moving to Florida. Brown, 40, was willing, and will relocate with the four youngest of her six children this fall.

Career-changers like Brown enjoy their new roles but admit it comes after lots of hard work and some adjustments in income, lifestyle and expectations. Leonard, for example, sold his house and moved the family into a smaller residence. The Kendall student and his wife paid off their debts, sold about one-third of their possessions and slashed their budget by 30 percent.

"Reinvention is painful in a lot of ways but it is liberating at the same time," he said. "It forces you to learn new things."

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tionships, work and other aspects of your life. To attain feng shui in your home:

- Positioning is crucial. Do not hang a chandelier above a chair. Don't put a sofa or bed under a beam.

- A home should be level on the ground. A sunken room lets positive energy flow down and get trapped.

- Objects or furniture with sharp edges should not "point" into a seating space.

- Outdoor pathways from the front to the back of your home

should be curved and not in a direct line. Develop curved lines with a birdbath, fountain, small pond or garden bed.

- Entranceways are an important component of feng shui — doorways can't be too large or too small. Counter large doorways by placing a windchime outside the door. Place a mirror on either side of a small door to fix this problem.

- Stairways that bend sharply are viewed as problematic in feng shui. Alleviate this problem with windchimes, potted plants and screens.

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